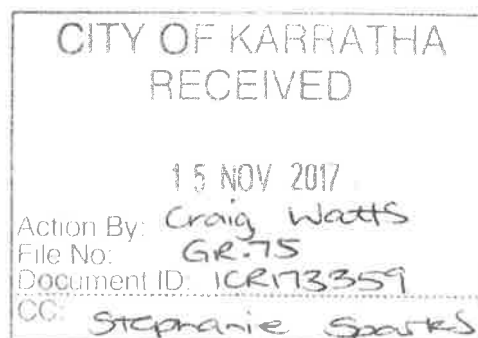




Department of
**Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries**

Our ref
Enquiries Mary Ioannidis
Phone (08) 65514957
Email @dlgsc.wa.gov.au

Chief Executive Officer
City of Karratha
PO Box 219
KARRATHA WA 6714



Dear Sir/Madam

AVAILABILITY OF PACKAGED LIQUOR IN KARRATHA AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Enclosed are copies of reports (including attachments) to the Director of Liquor Licensing from the Commissioner of Police.

As a consequence of the latest report dated 13 September 2017, I propose to commence an inquiry to determine whether further restrictions should be imposed on the availability of alcohol in the affected communities. Although the Commissioner of Police has suggested Pilbara wide restrictions, at this stage I propose to only focus on Karratha and the surrounding areas (i.e. Karratha, Dampier, Pannawonica and Wickham). An inquiry has already commenced in respect of Port Hedland and South Hedland, however this has been suspended pending alignment with the Karratha inquiry. The Hedland and Karratha inquiries will be determined together.

To help inform the inquiry, you are invited to make submissions and provide evidence on the extent and impact of alcohol related harm in Karratha and surrounding communities. It would be appreciated if you could coordinate responses on behalf of your local stakeholders.

Any submission you wish to provide should be lodged with this office by **8 December 2017**.

Please note that all submissions and evidence I receive will be made available to the affected licensees who will be afforded an opportunity to respond and make their own submissions.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Ms Mary Ioannidis on (08) 6551 4957.

Yours faithfully

Peter Minchin
DIRECTOR LIQUOR CONTROL AND ARBITRATION

10 November 2017

Enc: Reports dated 20 January 2017 and 13 September 2017 (including attachments)

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PO Box 8349 Perth Business Centre, WA 6849
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RECEIVED

18 SEP 2017

DEPARTMENT OF RACING,
GAMING & LIQUOR

See
Email F14



WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE FORCE
STATE CRIME PORTFOLIO

LICENSING ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

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EAST PERTH WA 6892

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Your Ref:

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Mr Peter Minchin
Director of Liquor Control and Arbitration
Department of Local Government,
Sport and Cultural Industries
PO Box 6119
East Perth WA 6892

Dear Mr Minchin

ADDENDUM TO SECTION 64 REQUEST – PORT AND SOUTH HEDLAND

In January 2017 I submitted a request for consideration that conditions on the sale of packaged liquor in Port and South Hedland should be imposed under the provisions of section 64 of the Liquor Control Act 1988 (the Act).

On reviewing that request, I believe that for any restrictions to be successful in reducing harm they need to be considered across a broader area rather than two localised towns due to the proximity of packaged liquor outlets in nearby towns and the mobility of persons.

Should it be considered appropriate to impose restrictions on the sale of packaged liquor in Port and South Hedland, I request that such restrictions be imposed across the entire Pilbara or other towns/locations within the Pilbara as considered appropriate.

The imposition of restrictions either across the entire Pilbara or other towns/locations within the Pilbara as considered appropriate would reduce the

ability of those who are most at harm and profiteers from circumventing the restrictions.

There are a number of towns and or licensed roadhouses that are in close proximity to Port and South Hedland.

Such locations include: (distance is from South Hedland)

- Pardoo Roadhouse 119 kilometres.
- Roebourne 192 kilometres.
- Marble Bar 192 Kilometres.
- Point Samson 211 kilometres.
- Karratha 231 kilometres.
- Dampier 252 kilometres.

Packaged liquor is sold at all of these locations, except for Roebourne. They are easily accessible from Port and South Hedland and the ability to source unrestricted packaged liquor at them would dramatically reduce the benefit of any restrictions if imposed in Port and South Hedland.

Though some other towns throughout the Pilbara are significantly further from Port and South Hedland, it is their proximity to the above towns that illustrates the need for Pilbara wide restrictions. This would negate the argument of displacement and increase the effectiveness of any restrictions.

To further support the introduction of Pilbara wide restrictions, I provide the attached report of Superintendent Coombes the District Police Officer for the Pilbara and the following data regarding alcohol related offences for towns within the Pilbara and for the Pilbara district, and how it compares to Metropolitan and Regional Western Australia and the State.

Table one depicts Domestic Assaults, Non-Domestic Assaults and Threatening Behaviour for towns located within the Pilbara with the exception of Port and South Hedland. The letter N indicates the presence of alcohol was not recorded as an attributing factor in the incident, the letter Y indicates the presence of alcohol was recorded in the incident. Total is the combined number of offences for that calendar year, with 2017 being up to 31 August 2017.

Table 1.

PILBARA TOWNS										
	2015		2015 Total	2016		2016 Total	2017		2017 Total	Total
	N	Y		N	Y		N	Y		
Barrow Island	2	3	5	2		2	2		2	9
Non-Domestic Assault	2	3	5	2		2	2		2	9
Dampier	5	7	12	5	2	7	1		1	20
Domestic Assault	1	1	2	4		4				6
Non-Domestic Assault	3	4	7	1	2	3	1		1	11
Threatening Behaviour	1	2	3							3

Exmouth	14	14	28	23	10	33	7	17	24	85
Domestic Assault	5	7	12	12	3	15	1	8	9	36
Non-Domestic Assault	6	2	8	7	2	9	6	7	13	30
Threatening Behaviour	3	5	8	4	5	9		2	2	19
Karratha	192	108	300	265	199	464	177	120	297	1061
Domestic Assault	94	48	142	128	130	258	78	84	162	562
Non-Domestic Assault	75	49	124	71	41	112	67	23	90	326
Threatening Behaviour	23	11	34	66	28	94	32	13	45	173
Marble Bar	5	6	11	9	22	31	4	9	13	55
Domestic Assault	3	5	8	6	15	21	3	9	12	41
Non-Domestic Assault	2	1	3	1	3	4	1		1	8
Threatening Behaviour				2	4	6				6
Newman	53	126	179	75	186	261	43	117	160	600
Domestic Assault	33	85	118	41	126	167	23	81	104	389
Non-Domestic Assault	13	30	43	23	32	55	14	21	35	133
Threatening Behaviour	7	11	18	11	28	39	6	15	21	78
Nullagine	5	28	33	7	23	30		4	4	67
Domestic Assault	3	20	23	3	19	22		2	2	47
Non-Domestic Assault	2	3	5	3	3	6		2	2	13
Threatening Behaviour		5	5	1	1	2				7
Onslow	15	13	28	24	37	61	10	20	30	119
Domestic Assault	2	7	9	9	23	32	3	7	10	51
Non-Domestic Assault	9	4	13	14	11	25	6	11	17	55
Threatening Behaviour	4	2	6	1	3	4	1	2	3	13
Pannawonica				1	1	2		1	1	3
Non-Domestic Assault				1		1		1	1	2
Threatening Behaviour					1	1				1
Paraburdoo	2	12	14	2	4	6	1	1	2	22
Domestic Assault	2	2	4				1	1	2	6
Non-Domestic Assault		8	8	2	4	6				14
Threatening Behaviour		2	2							2
Roebourne	87	113	200	91	160	251	57	109	166	617
Domestic Assault	41	86	127	39	107	146	19	69	88	361
Non-Domestic Assault	36	21	57	34	37	71	25	19	44	172
Threatening Behaviour	10	6	16	18	16	34	13	21	34	84
Roebourne includes the town of Wickham										

Tom Price	11	26	37	24	31	55	13	19	32	124
Domestic Assault	5	12	17	10	19	29	2	14	16	62
Non-Domestic Assault	4	11	15	10	6	16	11	4	15	46
Threatening Behaviour	2	3	5	4	6	10		1	1	16
Grand Total	391	456	847	528	675	1203	315	417	732	2782

The above data is provided to illustrate the impact that alcohol has on violence across the entire Pilbara and the issues identified in Port and South Hedland are not isolated.

Roebourne which is 192 Kilometres from South Hedland or a leisurely 2 hour drive has recently attracted considerable media attention concerning criminal and social issues within the community.

The percentage of Domestic Assaults in Roebourne that were recorded as alcohol related in 2015 were 67.7%, in 2016 it increased to 73.2% and currently in 2017 it has risen to 78.4%.

The percentage of Non- Domestic Assaults in Roebourne that were recorded as alcohol related in 2015 were 36.8%, in 2016 it increased to 52.1% and currently in 2017 it has reduced to 22.7%.

Marble Bar which is also only 192 Kilometres from South Hedland but in a different direction also suffers from alcohol related crime and harm.

Though the number of offences at Marble Bar are significantly less than Roebourne the percentage of Domestic Assaults that are recorded as alcohol related are very similar, with 62.5% in 2015, 71.4% in 2016 and currently 75.0% in 2017.

Karratha which is acknowledged as the capital city of the Pilbara is 231 kilometres from South Hedland and the distance between these two locations can easily be traversed in less than two and a half hours.

Karratha also suffers the impact of alcohol related harm and crime, which indicates that such harm and crime knows no boundaries in the Pilbara.

The percentage of Domestic Assaults in Karratha that were recorded as alcohol related in 2015 were 33.8%, in 2016 it increased to 50.3% and currently in 2017 it has risen to 51.8%.

The percentage of Non-Domestic Assaults in Karratha that were recorded as alcohol related in 2015 were 39.5%, in 2016 it increased to 36.6% and currently in 2017 it has reduced to 25.5%.

Table 2 depicts Domestic Assaults, the word No indicates the presence of alcohol was not recorded as an attributing factor in the incident, the word Yes indicates the presence of alcohol was recorded in the incident.

It is provided to illustrate the impact of alcohol on offences across the Pilbara and how it compares per 1000 head of population in comparison to Metropolitan and Regional Western Australia and the State.

Table 2

Location	2015		2016	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Pilbara	4.25	5.41	6.81	10.19
Metropolitan WA	4.76	1.56	5.27	1.51
Regional WA	5.30	5.71	7.19	6.41
State	4.88	2.44	5.68	2.55

The rate of alcohol related Domestic Assaults in the Pilbara increased in 2016 and was seven (7) times the Metropolitan rate, almost five (5) times the State rate and just under double the Regional rate.

The rate of alcohol related Domestic Assaults in the Pilbara in 2015 were well above the Metropolitan and State rates.

Table three depicts Non-Domestic Assaults, the word No indicates the presence of alcohol was not recorded as an attributing factor in the incident, the word Yes indicates the presence of alcohol was recorded in the incident and Total is the combined rate of Non-Domestic Assaults for that calendar year.

Table 3

Location	2015		2016	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Pilbara	3.33	2.65	3.83	3.32
Metropolitan WA	3.26	0.95	3.43	0.90
Regional WA	3.75	2.13	3.94	2.13
State	3.37	1.20	3.53	1.16

The rate of alcohol related Non-Domestic Assaults in the Pilbara increased in 2016 but was well above the Metropolitan, Regional and State rates.

The rate of alcohol related Non-Domestic Assaults in the Pilbara in 2015 were above the Regional WA rate and over double the State rate.

Table four depicts Threatening Behaviour, the word No indicates the presence of alcohol was not recorded as an attributing factor in the incident, the word Yes indicates the presence of alcohol was recorded in the incident and Total is the combined rate of Threatening Behaviour for that calendar year.

Table 4

Location	2015		2016	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Pilbara	1.24	0.82	2.62	1.96
Metropolitan WA	1.89	0.35	2.37	0.35
Regional WA	2.18	1.16	2.80	1.32
State	1.95	0.52	2.46	0.56

The rate of alcohol related Threatening Behaviour in the Pilbara doubled in 2016 and was greater than the State rate for both years.

The rate of alcohol related Threatening Behaviour in the Pilbara in 2015 was lower than the Regional WA rate but was greater than the Metropolitan and State rates.

The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) is the database used exclusively to record police attendances. When a member of the public calls for assistance a CAD job number is generated and the details in regard to the incident is recorded for dispatch to an available police vehicle.

Table five is the CAD data for the Pilbara to illustrate the demand for police assistance and how it compares per 1000 head of population in comparison to Metropolitan and Regional Western Australia and the State for the 2015 and 2016 calendar years.

Table 5

Location	2015	2016
Pilbara	265.78	183.99
Metropolitan WA	130.08	102.04
Regional WA	212.10	179.00
State	147.51	118.39

Though the CAD data shows the demand for police assistance across the Pilbara decreased in 2016 the rate of demand for police assistance was still much greater than the Metropolitan, Regional and State rates.

Whilst the CAD data does not provide information of alcohol involvement in the incidents reported, the IMS data provided shows that alcohol was consistently a contributing factor in the offences across the Pilbara and as such an inference can be drawn that this would also apply to the CAD data.

All the provided police data clearly identify alcohol as a significant factor in harm, violence, disorder and demand for police resources in the Pilbara.

Preliminary results from the National Alcohol Sales Data Project show that the estimated resident adult (aged 15+) per capita consumption across the Pilbara was 21.1 litres of pure alcohol per adult in 2012/13. The consumption rate for other locations in the Pilbara was:

- Combined postcodes of 6720 and 6718 which is Cossack, Point Samson, Wickham, Whim Creek and Roebourne was 27.6 litres of pure alcohol.
- Combined postcodes of 6721 and 6722 which includes Port and South Hedland was 20.7 litres of pure alcohol.
- Combined postcodes of 6713 and 6714 which includes Dampier and Karratha was 18.2 litres of pure alcohol.

The above per capita consumption rates are all well above the state rate of 11.4 litres of pure alcohol and the national rate which is only 10.0 litres of pure alcohol per adult.

The consumption level for postcodes 6720 and 6718 are concerning. Roebourne does not have a facility that sells packaged liquor but suffers significant alcohol related harm due to its proximity to Wickham 14 kilometres, Cossack 14 kilometres, Point Samson 20 kilometres and Whim Creek 88 kilometres.

The level of alcohol related harm across the Pilbara is extreme and in pockets it is out of control, requiring the imposition of restrictions on the availability of alcohol to provide a circuit breaker in an attempt to restore normality.

Restricting the availability of alcohol does reduce harm and I seek your consideration, to include the entire Pilbara or selected towns/locations in the Pilbara in the request for restrictions in Port and South Hedland.

Yours sincerely



J M MIGRO APM
DETECTIVE SUPERINTENDENT
LICENSING ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

13 September 2017

Enclosed report of Superintendent Coombes.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE FORCE

PILBARA DISTRICT OFFICE
38 HILLVIEW ROAD KARRATHA
WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6714
TELEPHONE : (08) 9182 2222

Your Ref:
Our Ref:
Inquiries: Superintendent Paul Coombes
Pilbara District Office

ISSUE: Alcohol related harm within the Pilbara

PURPOSE:

To provide an insight into alcohol related harm within the Pilbara, in support of the addendum to the section 64 of the Liquor Control Act 1988 (the Act) application for Port and South Hedland.

BACKGROUND:

Residents of the Pilbara region consume on average 40% more pure alcohol per year than the WA state average. (Estimated per capita pure alcohol consumption 2009/10 – Alcohol and other Drug Indicators Report Drug Alcohol Office 2015) From 2003-2012, the rate of alcohol-caused hospitalisations for Aboriginal Pilbara residents was 7 times higher than the non-Aboriginal Pilbara rate.

In January this year WA Police made a submission to the licensing authority for restrictions to be imposed in Port and South Hedland to reduce harm to the community, caused by excessive consumption of liquor, particularly packaged liquor in those communities.

Notwithstanding that submission, it is now proposed that further restrictions be imposed across the entire Pilbara or other towns/locations within the Pilbara as considered appropriate by the licensing authority.

Karratha Sub-district

The excessive consumption of alcohol is identified as the main causal factor in Family Violence (FV), non-family violence and anti-social behaviour in the Karratha Police sub-district. The Karratha Police sub-district comprises of Baynton, Bulgarra, Gap Ridge, Karratha, Karratha Industrial Estate, Millars Well, Mulataga, Nickol, Pegs Creek and Stove Hill, all covered by postcode 6714.

The flow-on effects of that excessive alcohol consumption include child neglect, juvenile crime, learned behaviour, lowered school attendance, early life trauma and foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD).

The alcohol that is being consumed to excess is packaged liquor purchased at licensed premises for consumption away from the licensed premises. The only current restrictions on the purchase of packaged liquor are;

- Liquor stores cannot trade before 11 am or after 8 pm on any day and not on a Sunday;
- Hotels and Taverns cannot sell takeaway liquor before 11 am or after 8 pm Monday to Saturday and 12 noon to 6 pm on a Sunday;
- Takeaway liquor cannot be sold in the following quantities;
 - In glass bottles larger than 750 ml;
 - In individual containers of more than two litres of liquor with an alcohol content of 6% or more (for example, wine casks of more than two litres);
 - Fortified wine in containers greater than one litre.

The following provides data to detail, and information to illustrate, the extent and increasing prevalence of the problems in Karratha stemming from alcohol abuse. Previous efforts by Police and other organisations to introduce restrictions on the sale of packaged liquor and restrictions under section 64 of the Act will be described along with the outcomes of those applications. It will conclude with detail of the further restrictions being sought by Police to address this harm and break the cycles of abuse and generational dysfunction.

Karratha Police Sub District Crime Statistics

In the 2016 – 2017 financial year, reports of Family Violence involving an Assault increased by 35.6 % on the previous year 2015 – 2016, from 204 to 276. Offences commonly associated with Family Violence, Damage and Threatening Behaviour, also increased. Damage reports were higher by 27.1% from 367 to 468 and Threatening Behaviour grew by 76.1% from 55 to 96 offences.

In 2017 – 2018, at 3 September 2017, the prevalence of those three offences is tracking below the previous year at the same time, but the rates are converging.

In the 2016 – 2017 financial year, reports of Non-Family Violence Assaults increased by 26.1 % on the previous year 2015 – 2016, from 106 to 133. That trend continues in 2017 – 2018 with a further increase of 29.4% from 17 to 22 Non-Family Violence Assaults.

In 2011, a 105 page report titled "WEST PILBARA: Report on Alcohol-related Harm, Ill-health and Disorder" (the Report) was presented to the licensing authority where a number of recommendations on liquor restrictions were tabled. Supplementary to the Report, WA Police provided a report on alcohol related harm, ill health and disorder in the West Pilbara. That report tabled, inter alia, information on alcohol consumption in the West Pilbara that the 2007/08 per capita consumption was 25.84 litres, more than twice the Western Australia average of 12.45 litres, one of the four highest areas in the state for per capita consumption.

In 2012/13, the average consumption in Wickham and Roebourne was 27.6 litres of pure alcohol.

The recommendations of that report were:

- Packaged liquor may only be sold Monday to Saturday from 12 noon to 8 pm;
- The sale of packaged liquor on Sunday be prohibited;
- The sale and supply of liquor on premise is prohibited before 12 noon except where it is sold ancillary to a meal or to a lodger
- The sale of wine in casks greater than 2 litres in volume is prohibited
- Specified liquor may only be sold in the following quantities;

- I. Wine in casks is limited to one 2 litre cask per customer per day; or,
- II. Fortified wine is limited to one 2 litre cask per customer per day; or,
- III. Beer is limited to one carton per customer per day; or,
- IV. Ready-to drink (TRD) is limited to one carton per customer per day' or
- V. Spirits are limited to one 750 ml bottle per customer per day.

With reference to (iii) and (iv), an equivalent to one carton in quantity may include a mix of beer and RTD.

The Report went on to state that "while there are a number of factors that influence how a person drinks, access to, and the convenience of, obtaining alcohol make it difficult for those that drink at risky levels to avoid drinking or reduce the amount consumed. The positive impacts of reducing the availability of alcohol can also be seen broadly across communities, not only within at-risk populations. (National Drug Research Institute, 2007)

In October 2012 limited restrictions, as described earlier, were placed on the sale of liquor across the Pilbara region.

Karratha Sub-District 2016 – 2017

On 2 November 2016 the Pilbara Liquor Enforcement Unit made a submission to the City of Karratha Liquor Accord for the voluntary introduction of restrictions on the sale of packaged liquor. On 7 December 2016 a presentation was made to the City of Karratha Liquor Accord on alcohol related harm in the community, in keeping with the stated purpose of the Accord "to reduce the alcohol related harm that is caused by excessive drinking and encourage the responsible consumption of liquor in the community"

Information on the extent of alcohol related harm was provided by Mission Australia, the Health Department, Karratha and Roebourne Police. Mr Andres Timmermainis detailed how a Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS) can be used to monitor liquor sales and individual customer purchases.

A document of recommended takeaway liquor sale restrictions was provided by WA Police. The members of the Accord met in January 2017 and voted to defer any decision on the proposed restrictions pending the outcome of the current consideration on liquor restrictions in South and Port Hedland.

The City of Karratha conducted a community poll, the result of which was that they determined not to support the proposed liquor restrictions.

St John Ambulance

St John Ambulance advises that the drug/alcohol related cases in Karratha from 1 January to 30 April 2017 constitute 33.3% of all cases, more than Hedland and Broome.

Information on drug/alcohol related cases by hour of day shows the greater number of those to be between 1700 and 0500 hours Sunday to Thursday and 1900 – 0500 hours Friday and Saturday. All licensed premises in Karratha close at midnight except the one nightclub. The increasing number of drug/alcohol related cases after midnight, peaking between 0400 and 0500 am are attributed to the consumption of packaged liquor.

Department for Child Protection and Family Safety

The Department for Child Protection and Family Safety (CPFS) advised that most of the Family and Domestic Violence referrals they deal with, that involve the safety of children, are alcohol abuse related. The most recent ten referrals are all alcohol related and it is an ongoing issue.

Pilbara Police are advised excessive consumption of alcohol results in poor outcomes for children and impacts negatively on their wellbeing. The continued abuse of alcohol is also an impediment to the resolution of child safety matters. CPFS staff regularly do home visits. When people at the address they attend have been drinking, the CPFS staff are most often unable to conduct their business.

The level of intoxication is frequently at the point where the people cannot speak properly, cannot walk a straight line and cannot stand still without swaying. On occasions where there is a crowd of people drinking the situation is unsafe due to the intoxication and aggression and the CPFS workers have to withdraw.

The liquor being consumed in these instances is packaged liquor. The yards of those houses are littered with empty cans and cartons of liquor are next to the people who are drinking. Generally, drinking will continue until all the liquor is gone. If CPFS staff see a child in that situation they try to remove it to be placed with a relative. Anecdotally the payment of royalties will trigger a period of excessive drinking.

Karratha Police Station

Karratha police conduct regular patrols at licensed venues to ensure the responsible service of alcohol to patrons. Observations by local police is that the staff at these premises do generally serve alcohol responsibly and intoxicated patrons are not common.

Alcohol abuse in Karratha occurs mostly from the consumption of packaged liquor, where the vendor of the alcohol has no responsibility for how that alcohol is consumed, nor for the volume of liquor that they sell.

The Officer in Charge of Karratha Police Station, Senior Sergeant Andy Stevens reports that a common pattern amongst the at-risk drinkers is that they purchase a carton of beer at opening time and consume that carton in the afternoon.

They then purchase or arrange the purchase of a second carton of beer in the later afternoon and the consumption of that second serving causes intoxication and then violence, anti-social behaviour and the flow on issues of child neglect and unsafe home environments.

A third purchase of packaged liquor just prior to the 8pm closing time will result in further crime and public disorder well into the early hours of the next day.

Roebourne Sub-District

The Victoria Hotel was closed in 2005 and currently the only liquor that is consumed in Roebourne is packaged liquor predominantly purchased in Wickham. The Roebourne Police Sub-district comprise of Antonymyre 6714, Balla Balla 6714, Chichester 6751, Cleaverville 6714, Cooya Pooya 6714, Cossack 6720, Maitland 6714 Millstream 6716,

Mount Anketell 6714, Point Samson 6720, Roebourne 6718, Sherlock 6714 Whim Creek 6718 and Wickham 6720

The current population in Roebourne is approximately 1000 permanent residents. The Officer in Charge of Roebourne Police Station Senior Sergeant Gemma Hennigan reports that alcohol related harm is the most significant issue in the Roebourne sub-district and directly impacts on the ability of Police to keep the community safe and tackle crime.

Senior Sergeant Hennigan also reports that alcohol dependency underlies a myriad of socio-economic problems which cause personal, family, cultural and family dysfunction.

Frequently community elders talk about parents not parenting. This is largely due to their addiction taking priority over their own and their children's health and welfare. Affected children have minimal adult supervision and often stay with extended family at different locations on a short term basis.

Another common theme is for grandmothers and a select few families to look after multiple children with little to no support from biological parents.

Due to the ratio imbalance between responsible adults and children, many don't have the basic structure and routine enjoyed by others their age.

Many factors inhibit a child's capacity or preparedness to attend school, a dysfunctional home life with poor diet, lack of sleep hygiene and health ailments (ear infections, tooth decay, skin sores), combined with lack of family support and encouragement are just some of the daily hurdles these children face.

Roebourne has experienced a 53.2% spike in verified offences in the 2017/18 financial year to date. This increase is largely attributed to a 113.3% increase in burglary offences and 253.8% increase in damage offences.

Almost every one of these offences is committed by juveniles residing in Roebourne and Wickham, with many of these youth already classified as Prolific Priority Offenders (PPOs).

As of 6 September 2017 Roebourne sub-district has 12 juvenile PPOs, accounting for 33% of PPOs in Pilbara District. Furthermore, local police are aware that the majority of PPOs have extremely dysfunctional home environments, their families are either open cases to CPFS or they feature on the CPFS Intensive Family Support list. These children form part of a larger cohort of juveniles who have poor school attendance or who are not engaged at all with Department of Education.

Advice from CPFS Roebourne Office indicates that majority of children in their care is a result of alcohol abuse and family violence. There is a high rate of family violence (per capita figure) in Roebourne sub district with 73% of domestic assaults involving alcohol in 2016 and 78% to date for 2017.

When adults are drunk and "partying", vulnerable and at risk children feel unsafe at home and will walk the streets at night time. Between 2014 and 2016 the number of FV related offences involving alcohol rose by 64%. For the same time period non FV related offences involving alcohol also increased by 65%. The total sum of alcohol related offences between 2014 and 2016 in Roebourne sub district surged by 65%, demonstrating the significant

community harm currently caused by excessive alcohol consumption in Roebourne sub district.

In an effort to reduce alcohol harm Roebourne Police work in close collaboration with Housing Authority, CPFS and Pilbara Community Legal Service to target "party houses" and assist tenants submit Liquor Restricted Premises (LRP) applications.

Since 2015 the number of LRP have risen from 1 to 28 properties in Roebourne sub-district, allowing police to take positive action at these locations to prevent the onset of anti-social and violent behaviour. This strategy has also assisted some people to retain their tenancy who were otherwise going to be evicted prior their home becoming a LRP.

Roebourne Police also conduct a joint patrol with CPFS and the Youth Crime Intervention Officer every second Friday evening. This arrangement has been in place since Operation Double Shot in June 2016, and allows police and CPFS to collaboratively address vulnerable and at risk youth, in addition to conducting home visits.

The alcohol harm caused in the Roebourne sub-district is predominately attributed to takeaway alcohol purchases rather than consumption at licenced premises. A queue of people form outside the Wickham liquor store at 11.00am each day with trolleys waiting for it to open.

They will fill their trolleys with as much alcohol as they can carry away or pile into waiting vehicles. When the money is gone, there is nothing left to buy food, clothes or pay for bills, rent and other essential items. They will harass family for their money, which causes conflict and it is strongly suspected unreported elder abuse. There is nothing to stop people going back to the liquor store several times a day, and there is no sense of how much is too much.

Senior Sergeant Hennigan has spoken with Roebourne elders at length about liquor restrictions, and there is strong support for "balance" to be restored to their community.

Many people believe alcohol plays a key role in all the other issues occurring in Roebourne, including child sexual and physical abuse/neglect, high rates of juvenile crime and non-school attendance, Aboriginal incarceration rates, family violence, poverty, poor health and lack of employment prospects. Alcohol is destroying their families and their culture, and they have asked Senior Sergeant Hennigan to help them break the cycle.

There is a desperate sense their community is on the cusp of losing another generation to alcohol abuse, unemployment, prison and poor life outcomes. Many elders and other community members will share personal stories of the trauma alcohol has caused to them and their families – children taken into CPFS care, husband/partners and sons/daughters dying prematurely – all tragically avoidable.

St John's Ambulance

Preliminary advice from St John's is they have attended an increase in alcohol related jobs in the past 18 months, which supports the corresponding increase in police offence statistics and community sentiment regarding alcohol harm.

Data for January – April 2017 indicates 20% of ambulance call outs to Roebourne and 29.8% of call outs to Wickham were alcohol/drug related cases. The percentage of Wickham

alcohol/drug related cases was also higher than those reported for both Broome and Hedland, areas which experience notoriously high levels of alcohol harm.

Roebourne Police Station

Roebourne Police have conducted several Point of Sale Intervention (POSI) actions at BWS Wickham, the main take-away liquor outlet in Roebourne sub district. Roebourne Police attempt to coincide these actions with significant events known to increase alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour and violence. Such instances include funerals, royalty payments, large sports events and local occasions attracting a large influx of people to the area.

The POSI actions have proven very effective in regards to reducing alcohol related harm for that short term period. Although Police experience the immediate benefit of POSI, it is very resource intense and cannot be maintained for the extended timeframes required, which would be required to effect any long term sustainable change.

Youth Crime Intervention Officers

Karratha and Roebourne Police stations have Youth Crime intervention Officers (YCIOs) whose task is to interact with and refer youth PPOs. YCIOs attend the homes of PPOs every week to form relationships with them and their families. These YCIOs advise that they commonly witness the harmful and flow on effects of alcohol abuse in the community. Information being provided is:

- Parents who are hungover from a drinking session do not get out of bed in the morning to feed, clothe and send their children to school.
- Parents spend their income primarily on alcohol and money is regularly not available to purchase food and household goods.
- Police who at night attend the homes of PPOs to ensure that they are obeying a bail curfew condition have found a twelve year old child caring for a two year old toddler whilst the adults were out drinking.
- Children are frequently witness to acts of family violence and assaults, causing early life trauma and normalising this abhorrent behaviour
- Children leave the home at night and wander the streets because intoxicated adults create an unsafe home environment.
- The majority of PPOs in Karratha and Roebourne have parents who consume alcohol to high intoxication levels frequently.
- The prevalence of alcohol abuse and availability of alcohol at home leads to learned behaviour in the youth who are drinking alcohol from a very early age, becoming intoxicated, and continuing the cycles of addiction and dysfunctionality.
- Many opportunities for children to participate in activities away from home that may divert them from the learned behaviour are lost because their parents have lost their driver's license because of alcohol impaired driving or are too intoxicated to drive.
- Children who are not properly cared for by their parents are known to commit criminal offences in order to get food, money for food or drugs, steal liquor, steal property to swap for drugs or sometimes engage in sexual activity to obtain drugs, money or alcohol.

CONCLUSION

It is my belief that for liquor restrictions to be effective, they need to be wide spread to reduce the ability of persons to circumvent them and to prevent displacement. An example of the

ease to circumvent restrictions is Wickham where the sale of packaged liquor is prohibited on Sundays, however in Point Samson 9 kilometres away, it can be purchased. I have been advised that there are regularly 'queues' at the licensed premise in Point Samson where persons are waiting for it to open at 12pm.

WA Police remain cognisant of displacing alcohol related problems, given the close proximity across the Pilbara but in particular Roebourne and Karratha. For this reason, imposed liquor restrictions should be uniform across the Pilbara or locations considered appropriate, to prevent people circumventing them due to proximity.

As described earlier efforts by Pilbara Police to convince the City of Karratha Liquor Accord to voluntarily impose takeaway liquor sale restrictions were not successful and did not receive support from the City of Karratha.

The excessive and dangerous level of consumption of alcohol, particularly, packaged alcohol in the Pilbara community is the main causal factor in family violence, non-family violence, youth crime and anti-social behaviour.

The occurrence of those offences is increasing and that criminal behaviour, alcohol and drug abuse, are behaviours that are becoming normalised and being adopted by the youth who are regular witnesses to it.

Unfortunately there appears to be no desire to control their own drinking levels and therefore to bring about change as their priority and in some cases their purpose in life is alcohol.

External intervention is required in many forms however it is the view held by Western Australia Police that until the levels of alcohol consumption, abuse and addiction are restricted the likelihood of successful humanitarian recovery projects of any form is unlikely.

CURRENT AS:

11/09/2017



CONTACT NAME:

**Paul Coombes APM
Superintendent
Pilbara District Office**

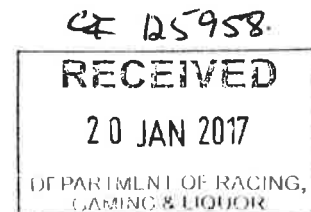
ENDORSED BY:



WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE
STATE CRIME PORTFOLIO
 LICENSING ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
 LOCKED BAG 9
 EAST PERTH WA 6892
 TELEPHONE: 9454 1442
 FACSIMILE: (08) 9454 1522

Your Ref:
 Our Ref:
 Inquiries: J M Migro 9454 1444

Mr Barry A Sargeant PSM
 Director General
 Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor
 PO Box 6119
 East Perth WA 6892



Dear Mr Sargeant

HARM CAUSED BY LIQUOR - PORT HEDLAND AND SOUTH HEDLAND

In October 2012 limited restrictions were placed on the sale of liquor across the Pilbara region.

It was hoped that these restrictions would reduce the incidence of alcohol related violence, crime and harm to the community.

Recent incidents of alcohol related disorder, violence and harm in South Hedland indicate that there is a need for further restrictions to be imposed in South Hedland and also Port Hedland due to its close proximity to South Hedland.

I provide the following data regarding alcohol related offences in Port Hedland and South Hedland to illustrate the impact of alcohol on offences and how it compares per 1000 head of population in comparison to metropolitan and country Western Australia and the state.

Table one depicts Domestic Assaults, the word No indicates the presence of alcohol was not recorded as an attributing factor in the incident, the word Yes indicates the presence of alcohol was recorded in the incident and Total is the combined rate of Domestic Assaults for that calendar year.

Table 1	2015			2016		
Location	No	Yes	Total	No	Yes	Total
Port Hedland	4.78	3.58	8.36	5.26	6.45	11.71
South Hedland	7.74	7.74	15.47	18.57	21.76	40.32
Metropolitan WA	4.76	1.56	6.32	5.27	1.51	6.78
Regional WA	5.30	5.71	11.01	7.19	6.41	13.60
State	4.88	2.44	7.32	5.68	2.55	8.23

The rate of alcohol related Domestic Assaults in Port Hedland increased in 2016 and was just above the Regional WA rate and almost three times the state rate.

The rate of alcohol related Domestic Assaults in South Hedland in 2015 were well above the Regional WA rate and in excess of three times the state rate.

In 2016 the rate of alcohol related Domestic Assaults in South Hedland almost tripled the 2015 rate and were in excess of three times the Regional WA rate and in excess of eight times the state rate.

Table two depicts Non-Domestic Assaults, the word No indicates the presence of alcohol was not recorded as an attributing factor in the incident, the word Yes indicates the presence of alcohol was recorded in the incident and Total is the combined rate of Non-Domestic Assaults for that calendar year.

Table 2	2015			2016		
Location	No	Yes	Total	No	Yes	Total
Port Hedland	1.91	3.58	5.49	2.63	3.11	5.73
South Hedland	6.19	2.90	9.09	7.45	6.87	14.31
Metropolitan WA	3.26	0.95	4.21	3.43	0.90	4.32
Regional WA	3.75	2.13	5.88	3.94	2.13	6.06
State	3.37	1.20	4.57	3.53	1.16	4.69

The rate of alcohol related Non-Domestic Assaults in Port Hedland reduced in 2016 but was well above the Regional WA and state rates for both years.

The rate of alcohol related Non-Domestic Assaults in South Hedland in 2015 were above the Regional WA rate and over double the state rate.

In 2016 the rate of alcohol related Non-Domestic Assaults in South Hedland more than doubled the 2015 rate and were in excess of three times the Regional WA rate and in excess of six times the state rate.

Table three depicts Threatening Behaviour, the word No indicates the presence of alcohol was not recorded as an attributing factor in the incident, the word Yes indicates the presence of alcohol was recorded in the incident and Total is the combined rate of Threatening Behaviour for that calendar year.

Table 3

2015

2016

Location	No	Yes	Total	No	Yes	Total
Port Hedland	1.43	1.19	2.63	0.96	0.72	1.67
South Hedland	2.71	0.39	3.09	6.38	3.67	10.06
Metropolitan WA	1.89	0.35	2.24	2.37	0.35	2.72
Regional WA	2.18	1.16	3.33	2.80	1.32	4.12
State	1.95	0.52	2.47	2.46	0.56	3.02

The rate of alcohol related Threatening Behaviour in Port Hedland reduced in 2016 but was greater than the state rate for both years.

The rate of alcohol related Threatening Behaviour in South Hedland in 2015 was lower than the state rate but increased dramatically in 2016 being in excess of twice the Regional WA rate and in excess of six times the state rate.

The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) is the database used exclusively to record police attendances. When a member of the public calls for assistance a CAD job number is generated and the details in regard to the incident is recorded for dispatch to an available police vehicle.

Table four is the CAD data for Port Hedland and South Hedland to illustrate the demand for police assistance and how it compares per 1000 head of population in comparison to metropolitan and country Western Australia and the state for the 2015 and 2016 calendar years.

Location	2015	2016
Port Hedland	310.80	216.91
South Hedland	484.14	473.12
Metropolitan WA	130.08	102.04
Regional WA	212.10	179.00
State	147.51	118.39

Though the CAD data shows the demand for police assistance in Port and South Hedland decreased in 2016 the rate of demand for police assistance in Port Hedland in both years was in the vicinity of double the state rate.

The rate of demand for police assistance in South Hedland was in excess of twice the Regional WA rate for both years and in excess of three times the state rate in 2015 and in excess of four times the state rate in 2016.

Whilst the CAD data does not provide information of alcohol involvement in the incidents reported, the IMS data provided shows that alcohol was consistently a contributing factor in the offences in Port and South Hedland and as such an inference can be drawn that this would also apply to the CAD data.

All the provided police data clearly identify alcohol as a significant factor in harm, violence, disorder and demand for police resources in Port Hedland but more significantly in South Hedland.

An example of the impact of alcohol upon members of the South Hedland community is the period of Tuesday 13 December to Thursday 15 December 2016 where police attended 11 serious Domestic Assaults all of which were alcohol related.

Four of these Domestic Assaults were categorised as being grievous bodily harm and one other was a wounding.

During this period, police attended a total of 110 CAD tasks with 68 or 61.8% being alcohol related and Saint John Ambulance were called out 19 times.

On Friday 16 December 2016 the provisions of section 114 of the Liquor Control Act 1988 (the Act) were utilised prohibiting the sale of packaged liquor in Port and South Hedland for the entire period of permissible trading hours.

The result of this action was that there were no offences reported in South Hedland that night and Saint John Ambulance reported only 4 callouts, none of which were alcohol related.

CAD tasking reduced from 39 the previous night to only 18 and there were no reported incidents of domestic violence.

In Port Hedland there were no reported offences and two CAD tasks, in contrast to the night before where there were four reported offences and nine CAD tasks, eight of which were alcohol related.

On Saturday 17 December 2016 all restrictions on packaged liquor were lifted which resulted in police responding to 41 CAD tasks for that one day of which 17 were alcohol related including three assaults.

On Wednesday 21 December 2016 police responded to 46 CAD tasks of which 33 were alcohol related. There were nine reported offences including four serious Domestic Assaults and Saint John Ambulance responded to an unprecedented 20 calls for assistance all of which were injuries relating to alcohol consumption.

On Thursday 22 December 2016, Police again utilised Section 114 of the Act to restrict the sale of packaged liquor to a four hour period between 3pm and 7pm.

During these hours police conducted a point of sale operation placing uniformed officers at every packaged liquor outlet in Port and South Hedland.

This operation was also conducted throughout Friday 23 December 2016 without liquor restrictions being imposed.

A combined total of 332 people were refused service by police and licensed premise staff over the two day period of the operation.

This restricted access to packaged liquor resulted in only two incidents of Domestic Assault being reported, 48 CAD tasks of which 21 were alcohol related and Saint John Ambulance attending 11 callouts during the 48 hour period.

In comparison police responded to 86 CAD tasks across Port and South Hedland on Thursday 8 December and Friday 9 December 2016, which I am advised represents a typical Thursday and Friday tasking.

These results clearly show that reducing the ability of persons to access packaged liquor does reduce harm and violence caused by alcohol.

Late last year the Hedland Liquor Accord which encompasses Port and South Hedland commenced discussions to implement voluntary restrictions on packaged liquor but was unable to reach agreement between members.

At that time a number of persons and agencies supplied letters of support for the implementation of restrictions on the availability of packaged liquor. Though most of these letters were provided in support of the Accord's proposed action, these persons and agencies still continue to support the introduction of restrictions on alcohol.

Attached are letters of support from:

- Attachment 1.** Pilbara Community Legal Service Inc.
- Attachment 2.** Relationships Australia WA.
- Attachment 3.** WA Country Health Service.
- Attachment 4.** Department of Child Protection and Family Support (Pilbara Region).
- Attachment 5.** Youth Involvement Council.
- Attachment 6.** Town of Port Hedland Mayor Camilo Blanco.
- Attachment 7.** St John Ambulance North West Region.

The Pilbara Community Legal Service Inc., identify that alcohol abuse is at the forefront of the problems presenting to them on a daily basis. Also that domestic violence incidents have doubled and this violence is the outcome of excessive alcohol consumption.

Relationships Australia acknowledges that the risk of domestic violence increases when alcohol is involved and that the victim's injuries are more severe in those instances.

The WA Country Health Service acknowledges the impact that patients affected by alcohol have on their Emergency Department and that recording such patients by primary diagnosis does not present a true picture of the impact.

The Department of Child Protection and Family Support recognises that the majority of their work and the reasons why children come into the care of the state involves excessive alcohol consumption and that South Hedland is the busiest office in the Pilbara. The District Director also acknowledges that alcohol tends to be prevalent in domestic and family violence reports.

The Town of Port Hedland acknowledges the high number of serious domestic assaults, police call outs and Saint John Ambulance attendances are all alcohol related.

St John Ambulance advises that their Hedland Sub Centre had a 17% increase in job numbers from 2015 to 2016 and across that period there was an increase of 25.6% in cases relating to domestic and assault trauma.

News article dated 18 December 2016 <http://www.news.com.au/national/breaking-news/call-to-extend-hedland-alcohol-ban/> **Attachment 8.** Identifies Premier Colin Barnett as supporting permanent restrictions on buying alcohol in Port Hedland and saying;

"I think that's got a lot of merit, where alcohol bans have been put in place ... it certainly reduces crime, it reduces domestic violence, kids go to school and communities are far better off."

News article dated 17 January 2017 <http://perthnow.com.au/news/western-australia/gift-cards-alcohol-fuel-pilbara-violence-over-christmas> **Attachment 9.** Mayor Blanco is quoted as saying;

"Our community, Port Hedland has had enough. I am pressuring the police to apply Liquor Control Act section 64 ... there's a lot of talk of restrictions but no action."

Senior Sergeant Snashall the officer in charge of South Hedland Police station has provided a report, **Attachment 10.**

In the report he describes the impact that alcohol is having on policing and the harm it is causing the community. This is supported by CCTV footage of incidents occurring in the vicinity of the South Hedland shopping centre.

A USB drive containing this CCTV footage and still photographs of locations in south Hedland is provided and is **Attachment 11.**

The report **Attachment 10** includes an addendum which provides a commentary on the footage and still photographs.

The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) Trends & Issues in crime and justice number 504 reports on the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) project in the South Hedland lock-up and how it compares with detainees from the East Perth lock-up.

This report was published in 2016 and in the forward Chris Dawson APM, director of the AIC states;

"The findings indicate that while illicit drug use among those interviewed in a regional setting was significantly lower across most drug types, alcohol use was higher. Of particular concern were the levels of risky

drinking by South Hedland detainees and their assertion that alcohol contributed to their current detention."

The report made a number of observations and findings including:

The South Hedland sample consumed beer more than other alcoholic beverages, whereas the Perth metropolitan group commonly reported consuming spirits the last time they drank. P.4

No South Hedland detainees reported drinking mid-strength beer the last time they consumed alcohol. P.4

South Hedland detainees (54.5%) were 2.6 times more likely than the metropolitan sample (20.7%) to state that they thought alcohol contributed 'a lot' to the offence. Metropolitan detainees (68.3%) were two times more likely than South Hedland regional detainees (31.4%) to state that they did not think alcohol contributed at all to their offence. P.9

For many South Hedland detainees, the drug use (mostly alcohol) usually took place within a public place or the home of family or friends. P.11

The police data, attachments and DUMA research establish that harm caused by alcohol is at extreme levels in South Hedland and that action is required.

The reduction in harm, violence, crime and demand for services which was achieved in December by restricting the availability of packaged liquor highlights the harm that packaged liquor inflicts across the community.

The DUMA finding that for many South Hedland detainees, the drug use (mostly alcohol) usually took place within a public place or the home of family or friends, indicates that these persons consumed packaged liquor.

It is the Commissioner's belief that restricting availability of packaged liquor in Port and South Hedland would reduce offending and harm.

This belief is supported by the impact of the surrender of the liquor store licence for Liquorland Kununurra (Licence No. 6030031153) and cessation of trading on 26 September 2014.

A review of CAD data was conducted for the period after the close of Liquorland from October 2014 to March 2015, with comparative months in 2012, 2013 and 2014 for a 250 metre radius of the store.

- Between October 2014 and March 2015 (store closed), there was 280 CAD tasks requesting police attendance, within 250 metres of the Liquorland store.
- Between October 2013 and March 2014 the same period the year before, when the Liquorland store was open, there was 410 CAD tasks.

- Between October 2012 and March 2013 the same period two years prior, when the Liquorland store was open, there was 352 CAD tasks.

The reduction in CAD tasks down to 280 after the closure of the liquor store from 352 in the period in 2012/13 and 410 in 2013/14 is significant and is directly linked to reducing the availability and access to packaged liquor.

Restricting the availability of alcohol does reduce harm and I believe that the following conditions if implemented would significantly reduce the harms caused by alcohol in Port and South Hedland.

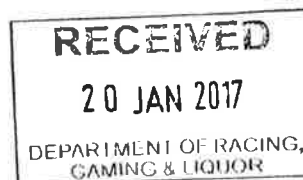
1. Packaged liquor may only be sold Monday to Saturday from 2pm to 8pm.
2. The sale of packaged liquor on Sunday is prohibited.
3. The sale and supply of liquor for consumption on premise is prohibited before 12 noon except where it is sold ancillary to a substantial meal or to a lodger.
4. Beer and Ready-to-Drinks (RTDs) sold as packaged liquor are limited to 3.5% alcohol content or less.
5. Specified packaged liquor may only be sold in the following quantities:
 - a. Beer is limited to 30 cans maximum, each can no greater than 375ml, per customer, per day.
 - b. Ready-to drinks (RTD's) are limited to 24 containers maximum, each no greater than 375ml, per customer, per day.
 - c. Spirits are limited to one 750ml bottle maximum, per customer per day.
 - d. Fortified wine in containers not exceeding one litre is limited to one maximum, per customer, per day.
 - e. Wine excluding fortified is limited to three bottles maximum, each no greater than 750ml, per customer per day.
 - f. Liquor may be purchased as a combination except for (c) and (d) but cannot exceed half the maximum for (a), (b) or (e) per person, per day.
6. The sale and supply of liquor is only permitted to a person who is present at the time of purchase on the licensed premises conducting the sale, unless approved in writing by the Director of Liquor Licensing.
7. Operators of taxis or buses are not to be sold packaged liquor on behalf of persons in the vehicle.
8. Occupants of a taxis or buses must exit the vehicle to purchase packaged liquor to allow for a thorough responsible service of alcohol assessment by staff.
9. Where a packaged liquor product is available from a manufacturer in a non-glass container, licensees are prohibited from selling the product in a glass container.
10. Persons purchasing packaged liquor must be asked where they intend to consume the liquor and if it is to be consumed in a public place or a liquor restricted premises, the purchase is prohibited. The Western Australia Police will provide all licensees permitted to sell packaged liquor a current list of liquor restricted premises on a weekly basis.

I seek your consideration, pursuant to section 64 of the Liquor Control Act 1988 to have the above conditions or any conditions you consider appropriate placed on the liquor licences in Port Hedland and South Hedland to reduce the harm caused to the community by the excessive and concerning consumption of liquor, in particular packaged liquor.

Yours sincerely


J.M. MIGRO APM
DETECTIVE SUPERINTENDENT
LICENSING ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

20 January 2017



Attachment 1.



Chairperson Hedland Liquor Accord
C/o South Hedland Police Station
4 Hawke Place
South Hedland
WA 6722

2 November 2016

Dear Sir /Madam

Re: Takeaway Alcohol Management Systems (TAMS)

The Pilbara Community Legal Service Inc fully supports the Accord's decision to impose liquor restrictions across the town of Port Hedland.

The Pilbara Community Legal Service Inc delivers seven programs in our South Hedland Office. Based on current data, it is safe to say that alcohol abuse is at the forefront of the problems presenting to our agency on a daily basis.

In my particular role as The Tenant's Advocate I am conscious of the fact that many Housing Authority tenants are facing tenancy termination at an alarming rate. Tenancy terminations are due predominantly to tenant liability arrears and these liability arrears are because of damage to properties as the result of unsocial behaviour brought about by excessive alcohol consumption mainly caused by visiting family or community members.

In particular our elder clients are faring the worst as they do not have the capacity to control the actions of younger intoxicated members of the community who in most cases cause the damage.

In the last 12 months, the number of domestic violence incidents referred to our organisation have doubled and the situation is considered to be at crisis point across the region. Evidence suggests that domestic violence is the outcome of excessive alcohol consumption and this is not limited to the lower socio economic members of our community.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Baker
Tenancy Advocate and Education Service
Pilbara Community Legal Service Inc.
(A non-profit government-funded agency)

Karratha Office PO Box 132 Karratha WA 6714 Phone: 08 9185 8200 Fax: 08 9185 4033	South Hedland Office PO Box 1266 South Hedland WA 6722 Phone: 08 9180 1633 Fax: 08 9177 2323	Perth Office PO Box 266 Perth WA 6728 Phone: 08 9180 1180 Fax: 08 9180 1180	Newman Office AG Box 1 Newman WA 6733 Phone: 9175 0140 Fax: 08 9175 5058
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Note: Please respond to the South Hedland Office

lotterywest

STATE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Department of the Premier

Relationships Australia

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2 November 2016

Relationships Australia WA

P.O. Box 2616

South Hedland

WA 6722

Chairperson Hedland Liquor Accord

C/o South Hedland Police Station

4 Hawke Place

South Hedland

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Cecilia Brownhill and I am the Branch Manager of Relationships Australia WA which is located in Lotteries House, South Hedland.

I would like thank you for inviting my office to take part in supporting Liquor Accord by writing this letter.

My office provides counselling services for sexual assault/abuse survivors and families impacted upon by family domestic violence.

We have worked with stories that inform us of the deadly and lethal connection between alcohol use and violence to individuals, families and the impact that has on our community.

I have been manager of two counselling services in my nine years of working in Lotteries House and I have observed hundreds of incidences involving the impact of alcohol drunkenness which has led to abusive behaviours on many levels.

These abusive behaviours include the following:

- Verbal abuse
- Emotional and Psychological Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Family Domestic Violence
- Using our gardens outside of our offices for toilets
- Public displays of sexual intercourse
- Disposal of drug paraphernalia

CORPORATE

p. 08 6164 0100

f. 08 6270 4491

a. 156 Railway Pde West Leederville WA 6007

m. PO Box 1206 West Leederville WA 6901

1300 364 277 www.relationshipswa.org.au

Relationships Australia (WA) Inc ABN: 32 105 234 326

Relationships Australia

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Domestic violence is complex behaviour with multiple factors and influences. What we know is that the risk of violence increases when alcohol is involved, and that the victim's injuries are more severe in those instances. Children are affected by witnessing domestic violence and alcohol also increases the risk of children being abused, neglected and emotionally damaged.

What is not mentioned when discussions arise in reference to the impact on a community when alcohol is connected to the high numbers of domestic violence, is the impact the violence has on the workers who have to see, hear and work in it every working day. This has led to people having to resign from their jobs, due to vicarious trauma, anxiety and stress, also professional staff who routinely come in contact with trauma and suffering as a career and then experience it again in their environment as part of their everyday lives are also affected by vicarious trauma.

I fully support restrictions of liquor across the Town of Port Hedland by Liquor Accord.

Yours truly,

Cecilia Brownhill



Branch Manager

9160 2900

CORPORATE

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**Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service**

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ABN 28 680 145 816
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Your Ref:
Our Ref :
Enquiries to : Brian Wilson

Chairperson Hedland Liquor Accord
c/o South Hedland Police Station
4 Hawke Place
SOUTH HEDLAND WA 6722

2 November 2016

Dear Dean,

On behalf of the Hedland Health Campus I would like provide support for the proposed Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS).

The Emergency Department regularly attends to patients affected by alcohol. In 2015/16 financial year there were 202 presentations directly related to Alcohol and other drugs. In the current financial year to October there have been 71 presentations. These figures are far lower than actual presentations whereby someone presents affected by alcohol. The reason being is we record the primary diagnosis as the reason for care. It is therefore often the case the patient's presentation is for, say a laceration, which has resulted from the person being intoxicated.

Providing a safe working environment for our staff is of paramount concern. Combined with this we also need to provide a safe environment for our patients and visitors to our service. In the calendar year to date we have recorded 111 incidents of violence and aggression. Of those incidents 62% note that Alcohol drugs or both were listed as a contributing factor. While we strive for a safe workplace we also want the reputation of the hospital in the health industry to be one in which we can attract new staff. If potential clinical staff are aware that Hedland Health Campus is not a desirable location then our ability to find and retain skilled staff is all the more difficult.

As health professionals a further concern is the number of admissions to the hospital for conditions related to poor health choices, of which excessive alcohol consumption ranks high. In 2015/16 there were 60 admissions resulting in 156 bed days whereby alcohol rated as a major contributing factor. In the current financial year to date there have been 10 admissions resulting in 15 bed days where alcohol was related to their presentation

I provide full support for the introduction of TAMS. I am keen to be informed of the progress of this introduction. Please don't hesitate to call or email myself on 9174 1040 or brian.wilson@health.wa.gov.au We can only see positive actions from this proposed implementation and would be keen to provide supporting evidence in the future when the system is implemented.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BW', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Wilson
Operations Manager East Pilbara
Hedland Health Campus
WA Country Health Service - Pilbara



Government of Western Australia
Department for Child Protection
and Family Support

Chairperson Hedland Liquor Accord
C/o South Hedland Police Station
4 Hawke Place
South Hedland

9 November 2016

Dear Members of the Hedland Liquor Accord,

The Department for Child Protection and Family Support fully commends your longstanding commitment to the alcohol restrictions in place, and also supports the consideration of proposed introduction of the Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS) into our town.

Our Department is mandated to respond to allegations of child abuse and neglect. Sadly the majority of our work and the reasons why children need to come into the care of the state involves excessive alcohol consumption and the impacts that this has on their ability to retain the care of their children.

In addition alcohol also tends to be prevalent in domestic and family violence reports that we receive. The South Hedland office is the busiest office in the Pilbara.

Port Hedland (including South Hedland) is also known as a 'hub' or stopping place for families travelling up and down the coast and also to those travelling inland to and from Perth to the North West. Further, it is known as an important meeting place for many families who come into town from out-laying communities, many of which are designated as dry communities. Our Department finds that many individuals belonging to these families binge excessively on alcohol and come to the attention of our Department, the Health Department and of the Police. Restricting the amount and availability of alcohol is seen as an important strategy in harm reduction. It will reduce their interaction with the above services and promote the care and safety of children.

It is known that alcohol restrictions are an important component in an overarching strategy in promoting safer families and children and healthier communities. Disrupting or inconveniencing people's ability to purchase alcohol can be an effective tool in allowing our community to consider the amount of alcohol we are consuming.

If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Natasha Bargeus
District Director
Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Pilbara Region.

Attachments.



YOUTH
INVOLVEMENT
COUNCIL INC

Chairperson Hedland Liquor Accord
C/o South Hedland Police Station
4 Hawke Place
South Hedland

4 November 2016

Dear Chairperson,

The *Youth Involvement Council* wishes to confirm its support for the Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS) to be implemented within our community.

As a long term YIC employee working in various programs, I have seen first-hand the effects of Alcohol related domestic violence suffered by young people in our community. YIC fully support efforts made to reduce the harm it causes. I have patrolled the streets of South Hedland for many years and have assisted numerous youth that have been distressed by the effects of excessive alcohol consumption within the home.

I am with the understanding that there has been a dramatic increase recently with the number of alcohol related assaults, some of these I'm sure young people would have been witness too. The Youth Involvement Council endeavours to support any efforts made to implement the Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS).

Should the Hedland Liquor Accord require further information, please don't hesitate to contact me on 9140 1272.

Regards

Kristal-Kareen Wyllie
Acting CEO
YOUTH INVOLVEMENT COUNCIL

Youth Involvement Council Inc.
A 34 Lawson St, South Hedland WA 6722
P 08 9140 1272 W www.yic.com.au
A.B.N. 17342353411



Civic Centre
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www.porthedland.wa.gov.au

Our Ref: 13/01/0023
Enquiries: Tandy Williams, Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Direct Line: 9158 9306



Senior Sergeant Dean Snashall
South Hedland Police
2-6 Hawke Place
SOUTH HEDLAND WA 6722

Dear whom it may concern,

Application for Permanent Liquor Restrictions

The Town of Port Hedland adopted a Strategic Plan in 2014 that advocates not only the building of a unified and vibrant community but also the provision of safe and accessible facilities and open spaces to all community members.

Given the current situation in our town pertaining to anti-social behaviour, we have been working closely with the South Hedland Police and Liquor Accord in order to find the best solutions that would foster a change of social climate and improve the safety and wellbeing of all our community members. Anti-social behaviour is on the increase and the number of at risk young children found on South Hedland streets has also attracted much attention by agencies and the wider community.

The South Hedland Police face many difficulties concerning alcohol consumption in Port Hedland. Serious domestic assaults, Police call outs and St John Ambulance attendances all in high number and all alcohol related.

With the above and many other such issues, the Town of Port Hedland give in principle support for the South Hedland Police's application for the implementation of a permanent liquor restriction under the Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS) on all liquor outlets in South and Port Hedland. Similar liquor restrictions have demonstrated to be effective for example, Thursday 22 December 2016; South Hedland Police subject to Section 114 of the Liquor Control Act enforced a restriction on takeaway sales. This restriction resulted in a drastic decline in alcohol related incidents.

The Town of Port Hedland Council will be considering a resolution to reactivate the Port Hedland Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee and Plan at the 25 January 2017 Ordinary Council meeting. This revised plan will consider advocating for State and Government or Federal Government intervention through legislative means (i.e. Liquor Supply Restrictions, Welfare Management Controls)

If you have any queries regarding this in principle letter of support for South Hedland Police's application, please do not hesitate to contact myself.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Camilo Blanco', written in a cursive style.

Camilo Blanco
MAYOR

18 January 2017

Attachment 7.

St John



For the Service of Humanity

18/01/2017

Chairperson Hedland Liquor Accord
C/o South Hedland Police Station
4 Hawke Place
South Hedland

Dear Mr Rudler

Hedland Liquor Accord – Proposed Introduction of Liquor restrictions and Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS)

I have recently been made aware the Liquor Accord in Hedland is seeking to impose liquor restrictions across the Town of Port Hedland in conjunction with the implementation of a Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS). The idea of preventing the secondary supply of alcohol to any person in a 24 hour period and imposing takeaway alcohol limits I believe is one of great merit.

I recently met in Kununurra with Mr Ian Trust, Executive Director of Wunan. Mr Trust recently wrote to the Premier of Western Australia on behalf of Wunan describing a "community in crisis as a result of chronic alcohol abuse". Wunan's report suggested that takeaway restrictions, particularly if introduced as part of a holistic suite of measures, including the Cashless Debit Card and the Takeaway Alcohol Management System, would have the effect of significantly reducing alcohol abuse and associated harm in Kununurra.

Wunan contended that the following actions were required in Kununurra and Wyndham:

1. That the Director of Liquor Licensing agrees to halve the current in Kununurra and Wyndham, from two to one carton of full-strength beer and from six bottles of wine to three bottles of wine per person per day.
2. That the current Take Away Alcohol Management System (TAMS) trial, which commenced in the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley in December 2015, is extended so that individuals are not able to purchase more than the daily limit by attending at different outlets on the one day.

The St John Ambulance, Hedland Sub Centre saw a 17% increase in total job numbers from 2015 to 2016. Across this period an increase of 25.6% was seen in cases with a primary problem code relating to domestic trauma and assault trauma. It is my belief that this initiative is a positive step and I would expect it to impact on the type and number of calls St John Ambulance receives. I support and encourage this initiative and thank the members of the Hedland Liquor Accord for proposing these positive and pro-active measures to support their community.

Andrew Graffen
Regional Manager
North West Region
St John Ambulance

Call to extend Hedland alcohol ban

● DECEMBER 18, 2016 8:54PM

Australian Associated Press

WA Premier Colin Barnett says he would support permanent restrictions on buying alcohol in Port Hedland after takeaway sales were banned on Friday.

The ban was implemented by police and the local council amid fears of civil unrest and violence after the release of security footage by the state coroner showing the final moments of Aboriginal woman Ms Dhu, who died in custody.

There have been calls for permanent restrictions on alcohol sales in Port and South Hedland, which are already in place in Kununurra and Fitzroy Crossing, and the use of cashless welfare cards that cannot be used for alcohol or limit how much can be bought.

"I think that's got a lot of merit, where alcohol bans have been put in place ... it certainly reduces crime, it reduces domestic violence, kids go to school and communities are far better off," Mr Barnett told reporters.

Attachment 9.

perth now
Sunday Times



Rubbish strewn all over a South Hedland alcohol sales and violence in the Pilbara community.

WA News

Gift cards, alcohol fuel Pilbara violence over Christmas

Taylor Amonini, PerthNow
January 10, 2017 8:58am

GIFT cards used to buy thousands of dollars worth of booze over the Christmas and New Year holidays helped to fuel a surge in crime and violence across Port Hedland, police say.

It is understood up to \$300,000 worth of Coles gift cards — some valued at up to \$1500 — were issued to Aboriginal people and used to buy alcohol at Liquorland in the lead-up to Christmas.

It was not clear whether the gift cards had been bought or if they had been handed out by an official entity.

Town of Port Hedland Mayor Camilo Blanco said he was appalled and angered by the idea gift cards would be used in such a way.

"This is not helping the less fortunate," he said. "It is contributing to the serious destruction of another generation."

Police were called to 46 jobs on December 21, 33 of which were alcohol-related, while St John Ambulance responded to an "unprecedented" 20 call-outs on the same night, all alcohol-related.

To try to limit the number of call-outs, police conducted point-of-sale operations for the next two days, with officers stationed outside the South Hedland branch of Liquorland.

Port Hedland Sen-Sgt Dean Snashall said it had been an immense battle to counter alcohol-related violence and harm in the community over the Christmas-New Year period.

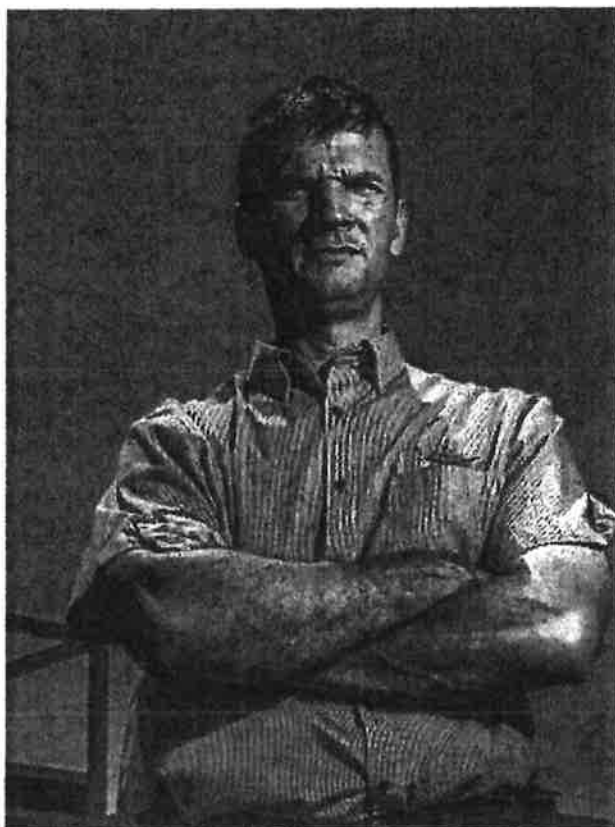
Sen-Sgt Snashall said the gift cards were seen being used in the week leading up to Christmas to buy "copious amounts of alcohol".

"I was present at Liquorland where I observed a male person pushing a trolley with eight cartons of beer to the counter with the \$1500 gift card," he said.

Sen-Sgt Snashall said on December 22, despite takeaway outlets only being permitted to open between 3pm and 7pm, 150 people were refused service by police and Liquorland staff for a variety of reasons, as were 182 people on December 23.

Over December 22 and 23, there were a combined 48 calls for police assistance and 11 calls for St John Ambulance, half that of the previous 48 hours.

"I don't think it takes rocket science to ascertain what the problem is here," Sen. Sgt Snashall said.



Port Hedland Mayor Camilo Blanco.

“No alcohol for one day resulted in no offences being reported.”

Sen. Sgt Snashall said he was “staggered that with all the public attention South Hedland received over the last two months in relation to alcohol-fuelled violence” gift cards in such large denominations may have been handed out.

“We had people driving from all over the Pilbara to load up on grog using these gift cards and I have no doubt that contributed to the high level of violence in the week leading up to Christmas,” he said.

WA Country Health Service Pilbara regional director Ron Wynn said the Hedland Health Campus emergency department experienced an influx of patients on the night of December 21.

“Four-hundred-and-fifty people attended the emergency department in the week before Christmas, an increase of 10.2 per cent on the same period last year,” he said.

Mr Wynn said when takeaway alcohol restrictions were placed on the town “there are fewer people presenting to the Hedland Health Campus emergency department”.

A Coles spokeswoman said the South Hedland Coles and Liquorland branches took responsible service of alcohol very seriously and endeavoured to work with the Port Hedland Liquor Accord.

“In South Hedland, Coles and Liquorland will continue to work co-operatively with police, the licensing regulator and the local community to assess measures to ensure we are properly addressing community concerns in relation to the service of alcohol,” she said.

“In addition to complying with all legal requirements on the sale of alcohol, Liquorland South Hedland has a number of additional measures in place to address community concerns.”

Mr Blanco has promised to “up the ante” on solving alcohol-related issues and antisocial behaviour in South Hedland.

“Our community, Port Hedland, has had enough,” he said.

“If we have to put up with this ... week after week, the country will have to see the footage as well.

"I am pressuring the police to apply Liquor Control Act section 64 ... there's a lot of talk about restrictions but no action."

Section 64 allows licensing officials to impose extra conditions on the sale of alcohol.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE

frontline
2020



SOUTH HEDLAND POLICE STATION

TO : DIRECTOR OF LIQUOR LICENSING

REPORT OF : OFFICER IN CHARGE
SOUTH HEDLAND POLICE STATION

SUBJECT : Alcohol Harm – Town of Port Hedland

This report is submitted to highlight the significant harm that alcohol is having on the Town of Port Hedland (ToPH) and what police have tried to implement over the last 2 years to try and combat the antisocial behaviour associated with excessive alcohol consumption. The ToPH consists of South Hedland and Port Hedland, separated by 16km with the majority of problems occurring in South Hedland. There are a number of packaged liquor outlets within both towns including Northwest Liquor, BWS and The IBIS tavern drive thru in Port Hedland as well as Liquorland, South Hedland Liquor and The Last Chance Tavern drive thru in South Hedland.

I commenced as Officer in Charge in January 2015 and immediately recognised the frustration within the community around the drunken antisocial behaviour that occurred on a daily basis in and around the centre of South Hedland, predominantly around Town Square and the Shopping Centre. In fact Police were called to 1681 CAD tasks at the Shopping centre and Town Square in the 2 years to January 2017. This equates to 70 CAD tasks per month, the majority of which were alcohol related due to the consumption of packaged alcohol which is predominantly purchased from Liquor land and the Last Chance Tavern. The video evidence provided with this application shows the extent in which violence occurs at the Shopping Centre and this is only the violence we captured. There was no doubt many more incidents the cameras did not capture.

In addition to providing evidence of the level of violence and disorder occurring in and around the location the download of footage shows these incidents are occurring in and amongst the community and in particular in front of children. I have attached a statement (Addendum 1) which provides commentary around each of the fights and the outcome.

In some of the footage children are imitating the actions of these persons and I strongly believe this could lead to normalisation of such behaviour to them. At the

end of the footage a number of still photographs have been added to provide evidence of the volume of packaged liquor being consumed.

Liquorland is located immediately on the left as you walk into the Shopping Centre main entrance. The last Chance Tavern which provides a drive thru service is about 200 metres away on Throssell Street which is a regular location for taxis to attend with multiple people in various states of intoxication to purchase alcohol without exiting the taxi. Taxi drivers will often drop the passengers off at 2 mile reserve on the outskirts of town or drop them back into Town Square where the alcohol is consumed. On Thursday 12 January 2017 I observed a maxi taxi collect 5 intoxicated and in my view drunk persons from Town Square. I followed the taxi and watched as it drove through the Last Chance drive thru where the front seat passenger was served a block of Emu Export cans by tavern staff. I stopped the taxi as it exited the bottle shop and I am currently investigating possible breaches of the Liquor Control Act by the Tavern and the taxi driver. During the course of my investigation I ascertained that taxi drivers charge an extra \$15 fee on top of the usual fare to take people through the drive thru. This practice has been referred to the Department of Transport.

In early 2015 I identified that there was a chronic addiction to alcohol by many people in the community that was fed by three daily cycles of purchasing packaged liquor. The first at 11am when bottle shops opened, again at 2pm and then between 5pm and 7pm. The last purchasing cycle was easily the busiest time for police at Town Square with the level of intoxication very high and with large numbers of drunk people sitting in the park awaiting the purchase of packaged liquor by a sober person. Town Square which is directly outside the Shopping centre offers a Taxi Rank, the Commonwealth Bank and Liquorland all within 50 metres and provides the perfect social platform for drunks to identify who has money and who has purchased alcohol. This practice still occurs today with the exception of Sundays and inevitably ends with multiple fights and serious assaults, stretching police resources.

Between the hours of 11am and 5pm people will either drink at 2 Mile reserve which is located about 500 metres from town square or at homeswest houses which are overcrowded and generally tenanted by elders who have no control over their visitors. In March 2015 I identified that police had attended one house 106 times in 6 months. As part of an evidenced based policing initiative I identified a further 4 houses that required excessive police attendance across the same period. Over the next 6 months up until September 2015 police proactively attended the houses prior to calls from the public. Department of Housing, Pilbara Legal Service and Bloodwood Tree were engaged and were able to encourage the tenants to apply to be a Liquor Restricted Premises. Police attended the 5 houses every day between 12pm and 4pm and removed and destroyed all alcohol from the houses which led to a marked decrease in call outs for police and a decrease in violence. The house police attended 106 times in 6 months dropped to 47 callouts for the 6 months of the operation which was a reduction of 62%. The other 4 houses decreased call outs by between 48% and 71% across the same period.

As with most regional towns in the Kimberley and Pilbara, South Hedland experiences a high rate of juvenile truancy and a high rate of juveniles roaming

the streets at all hours of the night. In February 2016 I identified that much of the antisocial offending such as damage caused by rock throwing, stealing's and the lighting of fires was being committed by very young and bored children. The figures from the High school alone were around 250 students not attending every day. Whilst it is acknowledged that the itinerant nature of these families is hard to combat this is still a staggering daily figure for a school of 1100 students. In a joint initiative with Child Protection and Family Services (CPFS) police conducted 19 joint agency patrols between the hours of 9pm and 4am between March and October 2016. A total of 550 children aged between 3 years and 16 years were picked up off the streets and conveyed to a safe place. During the patrols the children were interviewed by CPFS and Police staff and it was ascertained that they felt safer on the streets with friends than they did at home with the violence and alcohol consumption. The link between alcohol and the systemic social issues within communities such as South Hedland cannot be underestimated. Many of the children engaged by service providers late at night were the same children not attending school for very obvious reasons. The lack of parental responsibility and the fact they sleep all day and stay up all night coupled with the fact their parents are so heavily intoxicated from the consumption of packaged liquor means there is no capable guardian to ensure they attend school.

In late 2015 I commenced a professional relationship with a local aboriginal elder, Mr Philip Wright whose son was run over and killed in South Hedland in April 2015. His son was an alcoholic and was passed out drunk and asleep on a local street when the driver of a car failed to see him due to poor street lighting and ran him over. I spent many months with Philip, who is a 20 year reformed alcoholic trying to convince him to take a stand against alcohol in his community. Unfortunately what I learnt from that 12 month engagement was that South Hedland has a number of differing skin groups each with their own elders, some of which are in disagreement with each other. This was evident in the 10 or so community forums I have participated in around the issue of drugs and alcohol fuelled violence in South Hedland. There is very little desire to tackle the problem with each of the group's elders blaming one another. In late 2016 Philip tabled a petition in parliament to have government intervene and close Liquorland in South Hedland. About 200 people signed this petition but it caused much angst in the community and sadly since then Philip has given up trying to push for change around alcohol fuelled violence.

In the two years since January 2015 police issued 1020 move on notices all of which were issued to drunk and disorderly people in Town Square opposite the shops. Police conducted 17 separate operations targeting drunken antisocial behaviour in town square. Despite a dedicated proactive police response there still remains a significant alcohol fuelled antisocial problem in South Hedland. It is clear that arresting and charging offender's day in and day out is having no long term impact by way of a reduction of this behaviour or the reduction in packaged liquor consumption.

South Hedland is the traditional meeting place for many local communities in the Pilbara. All of the trusts and organisations that manage and distribute the royalties from local resources companies operate out of South Hedland. Up to 1000 people attend each meeting (sometimes 3 per year) where large amounts of

cash, up to \$300,000 is distributed requiring police to call in extra resources from across the Pilbara to combat the aftermath of excess alcohol and drug use. I met with at least one organisation and raised my concerns around such large cash payments, however no action was taken. More recently, in the 2 weeks leading up to Christmas 2016 South Hedland Police experienced a significant spike in violent assaults. This unprecedented level of violence, hospital admissions and call outs for St Johns coincided with hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of gift cards being distributed in denominations of up to \$1500 per card. These Coles cards were in some cases redeemable at Liquorland. During two days in December 2016, I was present in Liquorland where I stopped and refused service to people who had two trolleys containing 8 cartons of full strength beer at the counter using a \$1500 Coles gift card which had been given to them by a local trust. During my investigations into this gift card I discovered that people from all across the Pilbara converged on South Hedland to collect their cards for redemption, placing significant resource pressures on police during our busiest time of the year. Police were called in from Perth to assist with the violence.

Over the course of the last 2 years I have worked closely with Bloodwood Tree Association. Bloodwood Tree is a not for profit organisation that is funded by the State Government to provide a community patrol bus and a sober up shelter as well as a whole raft of programs designed to assist local aboriginal people. In an attempt to combat the alcohol fuelled violence I arranged to conduct joint patrols of Town Square with the patrol bus and the Local TopH Rangers. During the latter part of 2016 I ascertained from these joint patrols that the patrol bus in the first 21 days in October transported 840 clients from Town Square, including 62 in one night on 19 October 2016. The majority of these people were heavily intoxicated due to the consumption of packaged liquor with some later attending the sober up shelter. There were 283 reported offences for the month of October 2016 compared to 201 offences reported in October 2015. During my research as to why such a big spike in offending and intoxication occurred in October 2016 I was approached by a local Njamal Trust board member who informed me that cash payments of \$160,000 had been provided to 100 community members throughout the month.

My reference around royalty and trust payments is relevant only for the fact that all of the Pilbara Trusts conduct their business out of South Hedland which creates an influx of people into town numerous times each year to attend meetings and receive royalty payments. These payments, which are distributed in all cases from South Hedland directly correlates with spikes in poor behaviour and violence all linked to the consumption of packaged liquor.

In the 2016/17 financial year to date the rates of domestic, non-domestic assaults and threatening behaviour increased significantly. Whilst it is hard to place an exact figure on how many of these offences involve alcohol I am comfortable in saying 90% maybe more are directly related to the consumption of packaged liquor.

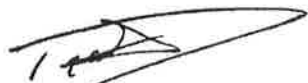
Based on the fact the majority of assaults occur in public places, specifically Town Square and the shopping centre we recently partnered with Mission Australia, Bloodwood and Charter Hall to provide a pop up services tent in Town Square. This is a chance to engage with the itinerant people who consume alcohol and

cause issues. The interaction while positive has failed to deliver any meaningful change in behaviour since this commenced in December 2016. Service providers attempt to engage with people to see if alternate travel arrangements can be made for them to return to their home if they are stuck in Hedland and they are provided with free bottled water and a chance to sober up. Sadly the violence still occurs despite police and other service presence in the park.

The rate of domestic violence has placed great strain on existing police resources requiring a specialist team to be formed from within my current staff allocation. This new team commences on 30 January 2017 and they will be responsible for the intensive case management of the worst recidivist domestic violence families and will work closely with CPFS and partner agencies. The creation of this team coupled with the constant attendance to alcohol fuelled antisocial behaviour has a detrimental impact on the police ability to be proactive in anyway. With our high level of tasking per day the majority of which are fuelled by the consumption of packaged liquor, police do not have time for much more than a response capability.

I worked on and off in the Kimberley and Pilbara for the last 15 years and believe that South Hedland is at crisis point. Not unlike what I witnessed in my 5 years in Kununurra the impact of alcohol on vulnerable and at risk people has gone well beyond the point of talking. Affirmative action must be taken to reduce harm in this community and it is my opinion that while alcohol restrictions alone are not the answer they certainly will reduce the level of intoxication enough in order for service providers to engage more meaningfully with the community. As it stands, counselling services and programs are pointless because those that need them the most are so impaired by alcohol 24/7 they are impossible to engage.

The police can continue arresting the perpetrators of violent crimes but the reality is while alcohol consumption is so high there is limited chance of reducing crime because the level of intoxication is so high that the perpetrators are not fit enough to make conscious decisions. I am comfortable that I have tried every trick in the book over the last 2 years to try and work with the community to reduce the harm caused by alcohol and the only initiative that worked was closing the packaged liquor outlets. We proved that when alcohol was not available the calls for assistance reduced significantly and in some cases no offences were reported. It is my belief that the only option now is to significantly reduce the access to alcohol in particular packaged liquor.



Dean Snashall
Senior Sergeant 9342
Officer in Charge
South Hedland Police Station

18 January 2017

Dean Trevor Snashall

STATES

1. I am a Senior Sergeant and the Officer in Charge of the South Hedland Police Station.
2. I commenced in South Hedland in January 2015 and over the last 2 years have witnessed significant harm in the community caused by alcohol.
3. As part of a joint Town of Port Hedland and Police led CCTV initiative and with federal funding the towns CCTV network was upgraded in 2016 to better capture the harm and antisocial behaviour in South Hedland to ultimately provide better evidence for police to intervene.
4. In August 2016 following a spike in reported Domestic violence assaults, the majority of which were alcohol related I commenced discussions with the Hedland Liquor Acord to consider self-imposing alcohol restrictions to reduce harm in the community.
5. Whilst the CCTV network is owned by the Town of Port Hedland, Police in South Hedland have access to all cameras and are able to zoom and move cameras as required to capture any incident. The quality of the footage is very high.

 5/549342 19/1/17

Statement of Dean Trevor Snashall
continued.

6. Similarly Police are able to download footage and save the files for evidence purposes. The footage is copied and retained in folders on the drive.
7. Every day between August and January I checked saved footage and in many cases downloaded and copied footage as a result of been told by my staff of specific incidents.
8. In early January 2017 I sent a number of video files to the Liquor Enforcement Unit in Perth for attachment to a Section 64 application to provide evidence of the significant harm in the community.
9. The majority of fighting and antisocial behaviour linked to alcohol abuse occurred in Centenary Park or Town square immediately outside the South Hedland Shopping centre. Below is a list of footage and some background of each incident as it appears on the disk provided.
10. 2 December 2016 at 12.39pm – Mother and daughter fighting directly outside the South Hedland Shopping centre and 10 meters from Liquorland. Both woman are regularly involved in fighting in the complex and are banned by management. Another two women get involved. The two protagonists were each issued a CCIN for disorderly conduct. My

Statement of Dean Trevor Snashall
continued.

officers advised me they were both drunk
as a result of consuming packaged liquor.

11. Wednesday 4 January 2017 at 6.27pm
officers were dealing with an argument
between several women outside the
South Hedland Shops, all heavily
intoxicated due to the consumption of
packaged liquor. Whilst intervening a
female officer was assaulted. The officer
effected an arrest resulting in several
other people becoming involved. OC
spray was used by police.

12. Thursday 18 February 2016 at 12.55am
male person seen stomping on his drunk
partner's leg causing it to break. This
occurs next to the South Hedland Shops.
The female is so drunk she does not even
react to the assault. The male then picks
her up by the hair and drags her into a
shopping trolley before SJA and police
intervene. The male person was heavily
intoxicated from the consumption of
packaged liquor and was charged with
Aggravated Assault Occasioning Bodily
Harm sentenced to 6 months
imprisonment.

13. Thursday 12 January 2017 at 5.28pm
sees two males fighting followed by 2
females becoming involved. This occurs
at Centenary Park opposite South
Hedland Shops. Both men were arrested
and later released with a CCIN for

Statement of Dean Trevor Snashall
continued.

disorderly. My officers advised me that both were drunk following the consumption of packaged liquor purchased at Liquorland.

14. Monday 12 September 2016 at 6.02pm a female is observed to drop her pants and urinate up against a bin in an open public space. The toilets are less than 10 meters to the left. This female person was issued with a CCIN for disorderly conduct and my officers advised me she was drunk from the consumption of packaged liquor.

15. Friday 7 October 2016 at 4.39pm a male person heavily intoxicated picks a fight with another male person inside the Coles supermarket. Security intervene and one guard is punched in the face. The guard and male wrestled around until police arrived. The video footage shows police arresting the male who was charged with assault, disorderly behaviour and obstructing police. My officers informed me that the male person was drunk from the consumption of packaged liquor.

16. Tuesday 18 October 2016 starting at 7.10pm shows a group of people standing around the taxi rank at Town Square. The taxi rank is 20 meters from the front entrance to the shopping centre. Some are consuming packaged liquor

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Statement of Dean Trevor Snashall
continued.

which is a regular occurrence at this location. The level of intoxication is clear when at 7.14pm a female person falls violently to the ground.

17.

Friday 28 October 2016 at 7.49pm shows a male person urinating next to the bin which is actually the brick wall to the public toilet. In the back ground on the grass is a number of intoxicated persons sitting around with empty packaged liquor cans strewn over the grass. In the foreground is a female police officer walking around tipping open cans of packaged liquor out which is being consumed right in front of her. Liquor infringements were issued to several people. It can be seen that the level of intoxication is high with many people drunk to the point of being unable to stand.

18.

Monday 28 November 2016 at 4.13pm shows police arresting a male person for assaulting his female partner. My officers advised me that the male was drunk from the consumption of packaged liquor which caused him to obstruct police violently. Officers received minor injuries resulting from the arrest. He was charged with aggravated assault and obstructing police.

19.

Saturday 10 December 2016 at 3.32pm a male person is caught harassing a female

[Signature]
19/1/17

See page 16 of 201
19/1/17
1611kg

Statement of Dean Trevor Snashall
continued.

person who is not his wife directly outside the Commonwealth Bank at the shopping centre. At one point the male grabs the woman by the throat and you can tell she does not like it. Police attended and found both persons to be drunk from the consumption of packaged liquor. The staff at Commonwealth Bank had to lock down the bank. The female did not make a complaint and a move on notice was issued.

20. Wednesday 14 December 2016 at 11.08pm shows a male person chasing a 14 year old female near the taxi rank opposite the Shopping Centre. The 17 year old male was heavily intoxicated but unknown where he had been drinking. The assault was brutal requiring admission to hospital. The male was charged with Acts intended to cause harm and is currently in custody.

21. Wednesday 20 July 2016 at 4.45pm a heavily intoxicated male and female are observed arguing and fighting directly outside the shopping centre. No charges were laid but a move on notice was issued. My officers inform me that they were both drunk from consuming packaged liquor.

22. Thursday 12 January 2016 at 5.03pm shows a large group of people congregating around the taxi rank

Statement of Dean Trevor Snashall
continued.

opposite the shops. I was present at the taxi rank on this afternoon and observed the majority of people to be drunk and in possession of unopened blocks of packaged liquor. These people were spoken to by me and advised that they were refused service at Liquor land but had a sober person purchase for them.

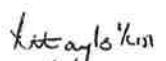
23.

Tuesday 15 November 2016 at 5.32pm a large brawl erupted in Centenary Park outside the shopping centre. The footage captures about 50 people either fighting or watching the fights. Kids can be seen getting involved as if it was some kind of sport. The fights spilled onto the road hindering traffic and was witnessed by many people attending to do their afternoon shopping. My officers informed me that all person were drunk and had been drinking packaged liquor all day at 2 mile community. 8 people were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct.

24.

Friday 3 June 2016 at 3.27pm 2 males are captured fighting in Centenary Park, Town Square. You can see school kids riding past after school watching and videoing the fight on their smart phones. The fight continues for some time with evident of packaged liquor strewn all over the grass. Both males are heavily intoxicated to the point of being unable to

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Statement of Dean Trevor Snashall
continued.

stand and had been consuming
packaged liquor all day.

25. Tuesday 16 August 2016 at 5.38pm a
fight commences on the left of screen
between three females. The fight
continues for some time in front of
afternoon shoppers and at one stage
bumps into a nearby parked car. It is clear
that people are impacted by the fight.
Security eventually intervene as does an
off duty police officer. All women were
arrested and charged with Disorderly
conduct. My officers informed me that all
were heavily intoxicated from the
consumption of packaged liquor.

26. Tuesday 3 November 2015 at 6.02pm
captures the aftermath of an arrest by
police. On the ground at the rear of the
marked traffic patrol car is an officer
wrestling with an offender. His partner is
seen fending off a large group who are
seen throwing rocks and sand in his face.
The officer is forced to use his baton and
pepper spray to defend himself and his
partner in what was a volatile situation.
Police backup finally arrives and
numerous people are arrested. All
persons were heavily intoxicated due the
consumption of packaged liquor.

27. Tuesday 13 September 2016 at 5.13pm
a group of females are observed fighting
in town square. The fight is quite

Statement of Dean Trevor Snashall continued.

protracted and kids can be seen walking past and shoppers watching on. Police arrive and arrest a number of people. My officers informed me that all persons were heavily intoxicated from the consumption of packaged liquor.

28.

At the conclusion of the CCTV footage there are photos of a number of houses and areas around South Hedland depicting the large amount of packaged liquor rubbish which is evidence of the problem that exists in the town. .

29.

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I have made this statement knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I will be guilty of a crime if I have wilfully included in the statement anything that I know to be false or that I do not believe is true.

Signed

Date

TSK 9342

19/1/17

Time 1610hrs

Witnessed at

SOUTH HEDLAND

On

19/1/17

at

1611hrs

By

HAYLES

Rank

1/c

Reg

15017

RECEIVED

20 JAN 2017

DEPARTMENT OF RACING
GAMING & LIQUOR

Hayles 1/c 15017

Police Witness signature