

Mr Russell Goldflam
Chairperson
Northern Territory Liquor Commission
Via email: Liquor.Commission@nt.gov.au

T 08 8999 2669

File reference
09-MIN25-1518

Dear Mr Goldflam

RE: PROPOSED VARIATIONS TO CONDITIONS OF LIQUOR LICENCES IN ALICE SPRINGS

I refer to the Northern Territory (NT) Liquor Commission's proposal to vary conditions of various Alice Springs liquor licences, and your invitation for interested agencies to submit a response within 28 days of the notice provided to NT Health on 21 November 2025.

In relation to the proposed variations, NT Health advises the following:

1. Mid-week restrictions on full-strength liquor

NT Health supports the proposed restriction requiring the sale, service and consumption of full-strength liquor to be accompanied by a full meal between 11:30am and 3:00pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in 20 Alice Springs CBD venues. This measure represents a sound harm reduction strategy aimed at minimising the risk of intoxication.

2. On-premises identification system

NT Health is unable to provide adequate consideration of the proposal for four licensed venues (The NT Rock Bar, Bojangles Saloon and Dining Room, Todd Tavern and Uncles Tavern) to utilise an on-premises identification system between 11:30am and 3:00pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays without further information.

Contrary to paragraph 60 of the Notice of Proposed Variation of Licence Conditions, NT Health is not aware of any instance where Banned Drinker Register (BDR) information has been provided to licensees through commercial arrangements of the kind proposed.

Preliminary concerns include risks of discrimination, confidentiality breaches, data security and impacts on the BDR's technological infrastructure. NT Health also notes that prescribing use of the system on particular days and times may create misconceptions of permission outside those periods.

NT Health does not authorise the release of BDR data for the purposes of this proposed condition. Consistent with concerns previously raised with the Liquor Commission¹, NT Health does not support imposing a condition that would prevent individuals with no intention of consuming alcohol from entering a licensed venue to access other amenities.

3. Public order and amenity condition for the four nominated licensees and Lasseters Hotel Casino

NT Health supports the proposed condition requiring the four nominated licensees and Lasseters Hotel Casino to take reasonable steps to prevent undue noise, disturbance or inconvenience to nearby residents, businesses and community facilities, and to ensure public order and safety in relation to entertainment, activities and patron behaviour in and around the premises. This preventative approach is consistent with reducing alcohol-related harm, as conditions that promote responsible patron behaviour help lower risks of violence, accidents and injuries in and around licensed venues.

Further, NT Health supports the Liquor Commission making recommendations for the inclusion of information on the risks of alcohol consumption during pregnancy, including Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, within Responsible Service of Alcohol training. The provision of free finger-food within licensed venues serving alcohol in the morning is also supported.

NT Health appreciates the opportunity to provide input and remains committed to supporting measures that reduce alcohol-related harm across the community.

Yours sincerely



Chris Hosking
Chief Executive
16. December 2025

¹ Northern Territory Liquor Commission, Variation of conditions of licences, 28 May 2021 (accessed at <https://agd.nt.gov.au/media/docs/liquor-commission/variation-of-conditions/barkly/variation-conditions-licences-barkly-region-decision-notice.pdf> at [31]).