

Liquor Licensing Discussion Paper

Reducing Red Tape

Question: Should local councils have the right to intervene in a liquor licence application having already approved the development application?

Comments: *At present, whenever council receives correspondence seeking a letter of support for an application for a Producer's Licence, liaison occurs with Council's Planning staff to ensure that the applicant has received the appropriate development approval to produce alcohol on the premises and, if required, approval to operate cellar door sales.*

There may be conditions attached to the relevant development approval which would contradict those stated in the application for a liquor licence. If this is the case, then Council should have the right to intervene in the liquor licence application if the application does not align with possible development approval conditions.

Consideration of Application Process for Short Term Dry Areas.

Question: Should local councils have the power to declare short-term dry areas?

Comments: *At present, the process which a council must undertake to apply for a short-term dry area is time-consuming and reliant on external bodies for support for same.*

The process which we currently use is as follows:

1. *Report to a Council Meeting highlighting the following:*
 - *Reason for applying for a Short Term Dry Area*
 - *Example of past experiences with Short Term Dry Areas*
 - *Date and time for short term dry area prohibition*
 - *Map showing the relevant area*
 - *Risk Assessment*
 - *Financial implications*

2. *Once Council approval is received, Council then needs to approach SA Police and local MP for letters of support for the application.*
3. *Once support is received from SA Police & local MP, an application is prepared for Consumer & Business Services stating the reasons why Council is applying for a Short Term Dry Area and providing the following information with their submission:*
 - *Copy of Council's Minuted Item*
 - *Map of the requested area*
 - *Letter of support from SA Police*
 - *Letter of support from local MP*
4. *Consumer & Business Services process the application and undertake any further consultation required at their end.*
5. *Once approved, a draft Gazettal Notice is drawn up and provided to Council for checking and approval. Approval is given and the notice is gazetted in the next available edition of the Government Gazette (at no cost to Council).*
6. *Council is advised in writing by Consumer & Business Services that their application has been successful, and a copy of the relevant gazettal notice is provided.*

This now ends any further liaison with Consumer & Business Services.

Comments on local councils having the power to declare short-term dry areas

If local councils were given the power to declare short-term dry areas, the process would be much simpler and quicker.

In my view, this would entail the following:

1. *Report to a Council Meeting highlighting the following:*
 - *Reason for applying for a Short Term Dry Area*
 - *Example of past experiences with Short Term Dry Areas*
 - *Date and time for short term dry area prohibition*
 - *Map showing the relevant area*
 - *Risk Assessment*
 - *Financial implications*
2. *Once Council approval is received, advertisements are then organised for placement in local papers and on Council's website closer to the date of the event.*

We have gone from a six-step process (which can take up to six months depending on gazettal) down to a two-step process (which could take only two months).



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