

Thank you for your recent invitation to make a submission concerning the review of liquor licensing laws. At its meeting today The Barossa Council endorsed that a submission be made in respect of the limited licence process and small venue licences.

Limited Licences

The processes for council involvement in licensing and associated issues are relatively sound however limited licences for individual functions and events have been issued without confirmation of suitability from council. This can result in multiple one-off licences being issued to a premises potentially resulting in cumulative impacts to neighbouring properties over time (particularly where premises have a larger capacity, late operating hours and frequent events). For example, in some rural localities high levels of commercial activities and regular conduct of licensed events can detrimentally affect the amenity and character of the surrounding areas particularly as a result of increased traffic on rural roads and noise. Therefore the current process could involve better consultation with councils and monitoring of the number of limited licences issued at a site.

Small Venue Licences

Currently small venue licences are only available in the Adelaide central business district but are seen to be suitable for township environments where small scale venues would suit the desired character of development. It would also enhance the establishment of premium food and wine businesses (that are often restricted by objections from existing licensed premises).

Summary

Improved consultation with council for limited licences and extending small venue licences to township environments are seen to be two important review elements of liquor licensing that would result in significant benefits. Such benefits include enhancing the economy of existing local township commercial and retailing areas, and potential time and resource savings where the liquor licensing process can be streamlined.

We would be pleased to participate further in the review wherever possible. Therefore if you wish to discuss this submission or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Louis Monteduro

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