

Name:	Alcohol Management		
Type:	Council Policy		
Owner:	Chief Executive Officer		
Responsible Officer:	General Manager Community and Culture		
Approval Date:	1/03/2022	Next Review Date:	2/03/2026
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## 1 PURPOSE

This policy provides staff direction regarding the assessment of applications for the operation of licensed venues seeking a liquor licence in the Palmerston Municipality and guidance on Council's management of alcohol provision on Council premises.

This policy applies to all comments Council staff provide to the Northern Territory Government (NTG) (Licensing NT) in regard to liquor licence applications for new liquor licences or changes and/or operation of existing licences under the *Liquor Act*.

This policy will also demonstrate how Council will meet the City of Palmerston Community Plan commitment to consider the social implications of all planning and decision making when contributing to Territory planning processes.

## 2 PRINCIPLES

Council is committed to providing a healthier and safer place for residents and visitors and a key aspect of this is via input Council provides on liquor licence applications within the Palmerston municipality and responsible alcohol management on its own premises and public spaces.

Council is a stakeholder in the Palmerston and Litchfield Liquor Accord. To support the intent of this organisation vendors who propose to serve alcohol at Council events or on council property should be members of the Palmerston and Litchfield Liquor Accord.

It is imperative that Council have a set criterion to consider relevant Liquor Licence applications to provide relevant comments under section 61 of the *Liquor Act* and other relevant legislation and if required, object to those applications that are inconsistent with an area or locality.

## 3 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions apply:

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Council Premises	Any land or buildings under the effective control of Council.
Liquor Licence	Means a licence issued under the <i>Liquor Act</i> .
Liquor	- Means a beverage that contains more than 1.15% by volume of ethyl alcohol
Sensitive Land Use	- Schools, childcare centres and other places principally used by children; - Seniors living residential developments; - Community Centres; - Places of Public Worship; and - Other land uses identified at the time of an application.
Residential Areas	- Land contained within a residential zone under the <i>NT Planning Scheme</i> .

## 4 POLICY STATEMENT

### 4.1 Assessment Criteria for Liquor Licence Applications

Council will consider, but is not limited to, the following criteria when considering liquor licence applications and formulating comments to Licensing NT:

- 4.1.1 Proximity and potential impacts on sensitive land uses. *(Will the proposed licence impact on any nearby sensitive land uses by way of noise impacts, increased occurrences of itinerancy or antisocial behaviour etc?)*
- 4.1.2 Hours of operation. *(Is the proposal consistent with the operation hours of the surrounding land uses?)*
- 4.1.3 Number of existing/proposed/approved licensed venues in the locality. *Consideration of (represented spatially) existing/proposed/approved licensed venues in the locality with regards to the social conditions of the locality (a review of Socio-Economic Indexes for areas (SEIFA) data if required)*
- 4.1.4 Number and nature of complaints lodged with Council in relation to an existing licensed premise. *(if applicable)*
- 4.1.5 The extent to which the premise has been designed to minimise the impacts of its activities on an adjacent residential development. *(Considerations include Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Principles, noise attenuation measures, landscaping or fencing buffers between any car parking, service area, outdoor storage area and surrounding land use)*
- 4.1.6 Level of security and surveillance to be adopted by the licensed premises. *(Is the existing/proposed level of security and surveillance to be adopted by the licensed premises adequate for the locality or surrounding land uses?)*
- 4.1.7 Does the application conflict with Community Plan objectives?
- 4.1.8 Does the application raise any additional matters of non-compliance with other legislation that may be relevant? *(Does the proposed licence operation have the relevant Planning permits/approvals?)*
- 4.1.9 Information contained with the Community Impact Assessment that accompanies applications.
- 4.1.10 Impact on visitors to the municipality.

Should an application raise significant conflicts with the above criteria it may be in the interest of Council to object to an application on relevant grounds.

An objection to an application should be made under Section 61 of the *Liquor Act* and based on conflicts or non-compliance with other relevant legislation.

### 4.2 Alcohol on Council Premises

Section 200 of the *Liquor Act* states permission for the consumption of alcohol in a prohibited public place may be permitted by Council (as the owner of the public place) on the provision that the approval is provided in writing.

- 4.2.1 Council does not generally serve alcohol at community events; however, alcohol may be served as appropriate at Council run limited access events (e.g. ticketed or by invitation only events) or unique events. This will be determined by the Chief Executive Officer on a case by case basis, with consideration of all relevant factors.
- 4.2.2 Council is prepared to allow the consumption of alcohol at privately run events on Council premises (e.g. parties, weddings) subject to written application advising of the provision of alcohol.

- 4.2.3 Organisers will need to demonstrate that they have complied with all relevant legislative and Council requirements and have engaged with NT Police including submitting a Northern Territory Police Party Smart Registration Form.
- 4.2.4 Council also reserves the right to impose additional conditions, including security arrangements, for the hirer.
- 4.2.5 Council reserves the right to impose the recovery of cleaning costs and an increased bond if it is deemed necessary for private events on Council premises.

### 4.3 Sponsorship of Council Events

Where sponsorship arrangements incorporating provision or promotion of alcohol are being considered as a way of assisting to meet the costs of a Council event, consideration must be given to the following:

- 4.3.1 The role, nature and value of the sponsorship package. The supply and service of alcohol as a main element of a sponsorship package is generally inconsistent with this policy, however an assessment of the role and purpose for the supply of alcohol will need to demonstrate alignment with the event setting.
- 4.3.2 Should the event be an open access (ie. all ages), the service of alcohol must not compromise access to the event.
- 4.3.3 The values of the sponsor must align with the values of Council as outlined in Council's Community Plan and requirements of Council policies as applicable.

## 5 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

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- 5.1 City of Palmerston Community Plan

## 6 REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

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- 6.1 *Liquor Act*
- 6.2 *Planning Act*
- 6.3 *Northern Territory Planning Scheme*