

LIQUOR LICENSING UPDATE

Regular News and Updates from the Liquor Licensing Division

June 2007 No. 23

Anti-Smoking Laws – one year on

Queensland Health's anti-smoking laws came into full effect from Saturday 1 July 2006. The laws put an end to indoor smoking in public places, including hotels and bars, and restricted outdoor smoking at certain public places. Licensees were required to create a designated outdoor smoking area for patrons and prepare a smoking management plans for their venue.

If you choose to have a Designated Outdoor Smoking Area (DOSA) at your premises, you must prepare and keep up-to-date a Smoking Management Plan for the entire premises.

A Smoking Management Plan must:

- identify the DOSA
- identify the outdoor areas where food is served
- identify the buffers
- state how you as the licensee will minimise the exposure of staff and patrons to environmental tobacco smoke
- describe the training or instruction given to staff to ensure the laws and the Smoking Management Plan are complied with
- state that signage is provided in the premises to identify where smoking is or is not allowed.

A template of the Smoking Management Plan is available online at www.health.qld.gov.au/atods/tobaccolaws/eating/smp.asp or by calling the Tobacco Hotline 1800 005 998.

The Smoking Management Plan does not need to be approved by Queensland Health, but it is an offence to not make the Plan available to Queensland Health enforcement officers on request.

You are also required to:

- display a sign in or near your DOSA stating that the Smoking Management Plan is available for perusal on request; and
- make your Smoking Management Plan available on request to patrons and Queensland Health enforcement officers who inspect your premises.

If you need more information, please call the Tobacco Hotline on 1800 005 998 or visit the Queensland Health website at www.health.qld.gov.au.

Know your Limits – pilot campaign shows results

Readers may recall in our February issue we informed you about *Know your limits*, a pilot patron education campaign.

The campaign was a joint initiative of the Liquor Licensing Division and the Queensland Police Service and is based on a successful British campaign running for the past three years.

Consisting of posters and coasters, the pilot campaign took place in 28 licensed premises in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast

Campaign evaluation surveys collected in May showed some promising results among our target audience which are outlined below:

- 90 per cent recall among patrons
- 50 per cent of these patrons said the posters made them think about their drinking behaviour
- 75 per cent said the posters made them think about their friends drinking behaviour
- 80 per cent of patrons and 95 per cent of venue staff believe that binge drinking is a problem in general.

The Division will look at further research and continue to work with our partners across government to develop a Statewide patron education campaign to promote safer drinking cultures.

New Australian ID Checking Guide

The 2007 *Australian ID Checking Guide* is now available from the Liquor Licensing Division. The Guide is published in collaboration with all States and Territories in Australia.

The 2007 guide is a pocket sized version with up-to-date information about acceptable forms of proof or age.

The 2007 *Australian ID Checking Guides* are available for \$5.00 each.

For more information, or to order your copies please email liquorcomms@dtftwid.qld.gov.au.

Statewide 3am lockout – one year on

A 3am lockout was applied to all late-trading licensed premises across Queensland from 12.01am on Saturday 1 July 2006.

The lockout allows licensees with extended hours permits to continue trading until 5am, but will not allow the entry or re-entry of patrons after 3am. So if patrons go outside to smoke, move their car, or meet up with friends, they cannot be allowed back inside the venue.

The lockout implemented the first stage of the Statewide Safety Action Plan and safeguards patrons, the community and hospitality workers from liquor-related harm in and around licensed venues.

A Statewide review is currently underway.

New laws under the *Security Providers Act*

Under new security provider laws passed by Parliament earlier this year, the penalties for operating without a licence or engaging unlicensed personnel have increased five fold from a maximum of \$7500 up to \$75,000 for individuals and up to \$937,500 for businesses. Penalties for operating without a licence will also include jail time for repeat offenders. The new penalties came into effect on Sunday 1 July 2007.

The new laws will be rolled out over the next 12 months and are scheduled to come into effect in three stages, starting with the increased penalties.

Later this year there will be increased probity checks on all new applications and renewals. The Office of Fair Trading will be allowed to consider criminal intelligence, unrecorded convictions within the last five years and other background information to assess an applicant's suitability.

In mid 2008, OFT will be continuing its reforms by licensing previously unregulated sectors of the industry such as security equipment installers, electronic surveillance operators', dog handlers, in-house security guards, and security advisors.

Be aware, there will be more Office of Fair Trading inspectors and more spot checks on security providers and licensed venues across the State.

The security industry and people employing security/crowd controllers should keep themselves up to date with the changes by visiting the website, www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au.

Liquor Accords Conference

The Liquor Licensing Division is hosting the second annual liquor accords conference being held at Yeppoon on 10 – 11 September 2007.

Expressions of Interest can now be lodged online.

To register an expression of interest or to find out more about Liquor Accords, visit www.liquor.qld.gov.au/accords or contact the Liquor Licensing Division on 13 13 04

Feedback

To provide feedback or comments on the Liquor Licensing Update or to change your contact details please email liquorcomms@dtftwid.qld.gov.au.

Media – for Statewide/Brisbane interviews with the Minister for Liquor Licensing contact:

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Queensland Government

Department of Tourism, Fair Trading and
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