



**BREWERS
ASSOCIATION**

Alcohol Policies and Legislation Review
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Alcohol Policies and Legislation Review

The Brewers Association of Australia and New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Terms of Reference for the Northern Territory Government's Alcohol Policies and Legislation Review.

The Association has a longstanding commitment across a range of activities to promote responsible consumption of alcohol and minimise harm associated with alcohol misuse.

As such, we support the purpose of the Review and urge that the Review's Terms of Reference focus on evidence-based interventions to reduce targeted harmful or anti-social practices.

Too often issues such as community violence are assumed and pre-determined as 'alcohol fuelled'. Blaming violence on alcohol is often too simplistic and ignores the many contributing factors to violent behaviour. Thought should also be given to extending the Review to a consideration of the abuse of drugs.

It is also important from the outset to ensure that the composition of the Review Panel is balanced and capable of bringing an evidence-based approach to its deliberations and recommendations.

It is also important that the Review focuses on what is within the Northern Territory's scope to act upon. If the Review's recommendations are to be meaningful, the Review must focus on Northern Territory legislation and regulations rather than traverse myriad Commonwealth rules where it has no jurisdiction.

Further specificity about the alcohol harm issues the Review seeks to address will help identify targeted solutions.

Kind regards,

Brett Heffernan
Chief Executive Officer