



Licensing, Regulation and Alcohol Strategy

Designated Areas, Banning Notices & Exclusion Orders

Northern Territory *Liquor Act* amendments

The Northern Territory Parliament passed a number of amendments to the *Liquor Act*, one of which is the ability for the Minister to declare a designated area following incidents of alcohol related violence in public spaces within the vicinity of licensed premises.

Designated Areas

To reduce alcohol related violence around licensed premises, the Minister now has the power to declare an area of land a “designated area” - for example, Mitchell Street in Darwin or Todd Mall in Alice Springs.

Once an area has been declared a designated area, police will have the power to issue banning notices to any person that has committed, or is likely to commit, a specified offence. A specified offence ranges from failing to leave licensed premises to serious assault and arson.

The ban will last for up to 48 hours. The ban may apply to the whole of the designated area or an identified licensed premises within it. For serious specified offences, or where a person has received multiple banning notices for the same area, the courts will have the ability to issue an exclusion order which generally will ban a person from the area for up to 12 months.

Designated areas will be published to ensure the public is aware of the boundaries of the area. All banning notices will show the designated area.

Banning Notices

If a specified offence occurs in a designated area, the police may issue a banning notice. A banning notice can last up to 48 hours. A person may be charged for the offence as well as receive a banning notice.

The banning notice will either apply to all of the designated area, or just licensed premises within the area. The issuing police officer will specify this on the notice. If banned from the whole area, the person may only enter if they work or live in the area. This means the person issued with the banning notice cannot go to any licensed premises, other business or shops within the designated area or even visit friends who may live within that area.

If the banning notice only applies to licensed premises within the designated area, the person is free to visit friends and other establishments but may not enter licensed premises.

Licensing, Regulation and Alcohol Strategy

Exclusion Orders

If a person commits a serious specified offence, or if they have received a number of banning notices for the same designated area, the person may have to appear in court where an exclusion order may be issued.

An exclusion order works similar to a banning notice in that the person may be banned from the entire designated area, all of the licensed premises or only some of them. This will be up to the court. The other major difference is the length of the ban which can be for up to 12 months.

An exclusion order may be issued even if the person has been charged or convicted of the offence unless they receive a term of imprisonment that exceeds 12 months. Like the banning notice, a person can enter the designated area to which the exclusion order applies if they work or live in the area.

Receiving a banning notice or exclusion order for one designated area doesn't mean a person is banned from all declared designated areas.

LICENSING, REGULATION AND ALCOHOL STRATEGY

Darwin

Level 1, Enterprise House
28-30 Knuckey Street, Darwin
GPO Box 1154, Darwin, NT 0801
Ph: 08 8999 1800
Fax: 08 8999 1888

Katherine

Ground Level
16-18 Randazzo Building Katherine
GPO Box 1154, Darwin, NT 0801
Ph: 08 89728906
Fax: 08 8972 8910

Alice Springs

Level 1 Belvedere House
Cnr Parsons & Bath Sts, Alice Springs
GPO Box 8470, Alice Springs NT 0871
Ph: 08 8951 5195
Fax: 08 8951 8591

Email: lr.doj@nt.gov.au Website: www.nt.gov.au/justice/licenreg
(P2)