



**Minister for Planning; Culture & the Arts; Science & Innovation
Government of Western Australia**

Our ref: 33-12701
Your ref: EH232



Dr Janet Woollard MLA
Chairperson
Education and Health Standing Committee
Legislative Assembly of Western Australia
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Dr Woollard *Janet*

INQUIRY INTO THE ADEQUACY AND APPROPRIATENESS OF PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF SERVICES FOR ALCOHOL AND ILLICIT DRUG PROBLEMS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

I refer to your letter dated 23 June 2011 regarding the above-mentioned parliamentary inquiry and my preliminary response of 18 July 2011.

With regard to Recommendation 23 of the Education and Health Standing Committee's report, I advise that the responsibility for this legislation rests with the Minister for Racing, Gaming and Liquor. The Minister tabled the Government a response to Recommendation 23 on 27 of September 2011 as:

'Legislative reform of this nature should be considered as part of a major consultative review of the Liquor Control Act.'

Should a subsequent review of the *Liquor Control Act 1988* be undertaken, my office would be pleased to take part so that the relationship between planning policy, development approvals and liquor licensing matters may be considered.

In this regard, the Department of Planning and the East Perth Redevelopment Authority have provided the following recommended amendments to the Act that should be considered in any future review:

- Provisions for State planning agencies (the incoming Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority and the DoP) to have the ability to intervene in liquor licence applications, similar to the ability of local government authorities, the WA Police and the Department of Health to intervene.
- Improve community consultation processes to achieve a balanced view of community opinion. At present the *Liquor Control Act 1988* only provides for the public to submit objections to an advertised liquor licence application. The Act and advertising processes should seek overall public comment, not just objections.

- The *Liquor Control Act 1988* and liquor licencing assessment processes to allow for requests for more information from applicants, prior to determination of an application. This would allow for a more informed decision making process that takes into account the appropriateness of a proposal.

Thank you for providing me with the Standing Committee's report. The Department of Planning and the East Perth Redevelopment Authority will further consider the recommendations of the report as appropriate in any future related policy reviews.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Day". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**JOHN DAY
MINISTER FOR PLANNING;
CULTURE AND THE ARTS;
SCIENCE AND INNOVATION**

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