

Developing an effective community safety and crime prevention plan

Alcohol and drug issues



Delivering a Healthy WA



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1. How can this resource help you?

This document is designed to assist with the development of an alcohol and drug section within a Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan. A summary of information is provided to assist you and your partner stakeholders to:

1. Clarify the key alcohol and drug issues

Having a good understanding of what the real alcohol and drug issues are that impact on crime and safety in your community helps with identifying which stakeholders need to be involved.

Moving from broad generalisations to getting clear on what the specific issues are will ensure your valuable community resources are used where there is genuine and greatest need.

2. Identify the factors that contribute to the alcohol and drug issues occurring

Alcohol and other drug issues can come about due to a mix of individual, environmental and social factors. If the problems occur often, it is likely that environmental and social factors (community systems and structures) are supporting them to happen (by not preventing or minimising them).

Looking at the contributing factors, rather than focusing only on the problem itself, will help your Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan strategies prevent and reduce the problem rather than just manage it.

3. Work in collaboration and avoid reinventing the wheel

Acknowledging programs or initiatives already in place can help a big issue seem less overwhelming. Drawing on the expertise of partner agencies and working together to find mutually beneficial solutions can share the load and achieve better value for money outcomes.

4. Be aware of the strategies most and least likely to achieve results

Being aware of a range of evidence-based options that work can assist with choosing what has the greatest chance of preventing or reducing alcohol or drug issues in your specific local context.

5. Respect community commitment and limited resources by choosing strategies that will succeed in preventing and minimising alcohol and drug issues

Deciding which strategies are possible and practical can be challenging. It is valuable to note that popular 'feel good' or well known strategies are not always the strategies that get results. It is also the case that sometimes, what would be most effective is also the most difficult or unpopular option to action in a particular community.

It is important at the outset for all involved to commit to a minimum standard of best practice for your Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan. That is, for all to agree to only support and develop strategies that can make a difference.

Note: The information and recommended strategies are based on national and international literature on effective prevention and management strategies for alcohol and drug-related problems in conjunction with practical expert experience and evaluation of local programs.

2. Strategy examples to address key alcohol and drug issues

Purpose:

- To assist with choosing strategies after key issues have been identified.

Section includes:

- Four common alcohol and drug-related issues that impact on community safety and crime:
 1. Alcohol and drug-related antisocial behaviour.
 2. Street drinking.
 3. General public drunkenness.
 4. Access to treatment and support services.
- Examples of possible factors that may support the issue to occur.
- Examples of effective strategies for different stakeholders that respond to the contributing factors.
- Each key issue may have several factors that contribute to the problem. For best results the range of factors and related strategies should be considered as part of a comprehensive approach.
- Numbered references (eg¹) refers readers to Section 4, which provides information on specific programs and contacts.

Issue 1: Alcohol and drug-related anti-social behaviour



Factors that may contribute to the problem

A. Alcohol Availability (Licensed / Unlicensed)

- Long trading hours.
- Outlet density (many venues in one area).
- Types of alcohol promoted / sold.
- Price of alcohol.
- Uncontrolled access of alcohol to underage young people.

Examples of strategies (by stakeholder group)

NB not all stakeholders are listed here, this is a guide only. Strategies may be collaborative.

Local Government

- Develop a Local Government alcohol policy and management plan¹ to support whole-of-organisation approach to prevent and manage alcohol problems.
- Review internal liquor licence (including occasional licence) approval processes to include harm minimisation considerations (eg harm minimisation conditions on licences and public buildings harm minimisation conditions).
- Assess appropriate mixed land use to promote a safer community and limit large numbers of high-risk liquor outlets in specific areas.
- Collect alcohol-related data such as security services callouts (to parties, property damage, anti-social behaviour), cleanup costs (alcohol containers litter, broken glass and property damage) and resident complaints. Collate the data and map in terms of alcohol hot spots (eg local park, licensed venues or other public space). Share this information with other agencies to respond to local alcohol issues.
- Review and amend policies relating to trading hours of licensed premises to reduce problems associated with drunkenness.
- Encourage community members to report alcohol-related problems to Local Governments. Local Governments can develop and provide a submission form to assist community members to report incidents.

Community

- Report incidences of sales to minors to the Police, Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor and/or the Local Government.
- Be involved in local licensing issues.
- Record local alcohol issues to present to the relevant local authorities.

Police

- Regularly inspect and patrol licensed premises to ensure that alcohol is not sold to people under 18 years of age, and that premises comply with other liquor licensing laws.

Health

- Collect local alcohol-related harm data from health services (eg hospital admissions and sobering-up shelter data).

Other

- Licensees to display signage, posters and stickers that educate people about the liquor licensing law (specifically sales to minors).⁴
- Licensees / managers to support bar staff to serve responsibly.
- Ensure crowd controllers are trained in non-aggressive patron management.

Factors that may contribute to the problem

B. Community Attitudes

- Social acceptance of drunken behaviour.

Examples of strategies (by stakeholder group)

NB not all stakeholders are listed here, this is a guide only. Strategies may be collaborative.

Local Government

- Place information about local alcohol-related issues in newsletters to communicate information about alcohol-related incidents, educational events and any other relevant information for parents and community members.
- Conduct business education forums to inform businesses about the liquor licensing laws, alcohol-related problems / incidents in the area, community safety strategies and to encourage businesses to record and report incidents of alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Encourage and support alcohol-free events, as opposed to licensed events.
- Encourage managers of licensed events to include responsible drinking messages on event advertising and marketing flyers.
- Conduct a community forum about the role of alcohol in the community and creating a safer drinking culture.
- Promote responsible service at Council events.
- Establish the Local Government as community leaders regarding reducing alcohol-related harm resulting from drunken behaviour.

Community

- Within community groups, discuss the problems associated with drunkenness and via local media.
- Visit www.rethinkdrink.com.au to find out what community members can do about alcohol-related problems.

Police

- Conduct targeted policing of licensed premises to ensure compliance with liquor licensing laws.

Health

- Conduct parent education forums to inform them of the law, especially with regard to supplying liquor to minors, alcohol-related problems / incidents in the area, and the influence adults have on their children.
- Promote the Rethink Drink message through local media opportunities (reactive and proactive).⁵
- Promote the Rethink Drink website as a tool to assist communities to respond to alcohol-related problems (www.rethinkdrink.com.au).⁵
- Support the development and implementation of local strategies that use materials from the Rethink Drink program.⁵

Other - Local Businesses

- Encourage businesses to report alcohol-related crimes and anti-social behaviour to Local Government and Police.



Factors that may contribute to the problem

C. Private Settings / Public Space - Environmental Factors

- Physical environment not safe or does not promote positive behaviour.
- Poor street lighting.
- Public open space not monitored.
- Lack of adult supervision.

Examples of strategies (by stakeholder group)

NB not all stakeholders are listed here, this is a guide only. Strategies may be collaborative.

Local Government

- Conduct a community safety audit.
- Explore the feasibility of implementing and monitoring CCTV.
- Liaise with other local councils that have implemented CCTV to understand best practice and use of CCTV.
- Incorporate designing out crime principles into urban planning and the redesign of problem areas (refer to Designing Out Crime Guidelines developed by the Office of Crime Prevention, WA).
- Improve lighting (temporary and permanent).
- Increase static and mobile security patrols in the community (where appropriate).
- Encourage community members to report unsafe or problem areas to the Local Government.
Local Governments can develop and provide a submission form to assist community residents and businesses to report such areas.

Police

- Monitor and patrol public places and known trouble spots.

Health

- Conduct parent education forums to inform them of the law, especially with regard to supplying liquor to minors, alcohol-related problems / incidents in the area, and the influence adults have on their children.

Community

- Report unsafe areas to the Local Government.

Other - Local Businesses

- Report unsafe areas or damage to the Local Government.

Issue 1: Alcohol and drug-related anti-social behaviour

Factors that may contribute to the problem

D. Licensed Settings - Environmental Factors

- Nature of venue (entertainment, food, patronage, comfort, crowding).
- Lack of responsible service of alcohol.
- Lack of alcohol and drug risk management plans.
- Lack of patron management by non-violent crowd controllers.
- Inadequate monitoring and communication.
- Lack of adequate transport options.

Examples of strategies (by stakeholder group)

NB not all stakeholders are listed here, this is a guide only. Strategies may be collaborative.

Local Government

- Review internal liquor licence (including occasional licence) approval processes to include harm minimisation considerations (eg harm minimisation conditions on licences and public buildings harm minimisation conditions).
- Monitor the advertising of events to be held in public buildings to ensure it is appropriate.
- Inspect and monitor licensed premises for compliance with their Certificate of Approval (maximum capacity and use of the building), Section 39 and 40 certificates, noise regulations and any other relevant local laws or policies (particularly for council-owned premises).
- Engage with licensed venues on appropriate risk management strategies.
- Encourage managers and staff of night venues and entertainment events to complete the Night Venues and Entertainment Events Project training in alcohol and drug risk management.⁷
- When licensed events are held that pose an alcohol or drug-related-harm risk, require the management of the events to submit a drug and alcohol policy and management plan to the Local Government.
- Encourage community members to report alcohol-related problems. Local Governments can develop and provide a submission form to assist community members to report incidents.

Community

- Be involved in local licensing matters.

Police

- Conduct targeted policing of licensed premises to ensure compliance with liquor licensing laws and conditions on licence.
- Encourage licensed premises to employ non-violent crowd controllers.
- Oppose liquor licence applications that are not low risk.

Health

- Provide advice to licensed premises about how to create safer drinking environments in licensed premises (contact the Drug and Alcohol Office).
- Encourage night venues and entertainment events to participate in Drug Aware convenience advertising campaigns.⁸
- Oppose liquor licence applications that are not low risk.

Other - Local Businesses

- Licensees to display signage, posters and stickers that educate people about the liquor licensing law (specifically service to drunk patrons).⁴
- Licensees to encourage communication between staff (including bar staff, glassies and crowd controllers) about problems in premises.
- Licensees / managers to support staff to serve responsibly.
- Promote a safer drinking environment by training staff in non-aggressive patron management techniques.
- Work with other nearby licensees to review public transport options and possible alternatives.

Factors that may contribute to the problem

E. Illicit Drug Use

- Inadequate knowledge about illicit drugs and the problems associated with use.
- Boredom and peer group norms that may result in drug use being more acceptable amongst certain groups.

- Retailers of cannabis paraphernalia not complying with Cannabis Control Act 2003 (requires retailers to display a health warning notice and to make available educational information about the health effects of cannabis).
- Illegal sale of ice-pipes. (Note: the sale of ice-pipes has been banned by the Consumer Protection Commissioner under WA Consumer Protection Laws).

Examples of strategies (by stakeholder group)

NB not all stakeholders are listed here, this is a guide only. Strategies may be collaborative.

Local Government

- Report all retailers of cannabis paraphernalia⁹ to the Drug and Alcohol Office. The Drug and Alcohol Office maintains a register of all retailers, including established retail stores and market stalls.
- Monitor retailers of cannabis paraphernalia to ensure that they are displaying the required health warning notice and have educational information about cannabis available.⁹
- Monitor retailers of cannabis paraphernalia for any sales to minors (Note: it is illegal to sell paraphernalia to a minor; significant penalties apply).
- Report the name and address of retailers who do not comply with the legislation to the Drug and Alcohol Office.
- Encourage managers and staff of licensed venues and organisers of entertainment events to complete the Night Venues and Entertainment Events Project alcohol and other drug risk management training.⁷
- Require the management of entertainment events that pose a risk of alcohol or other drug-related harm, to submit a drug and alcohol policy and management plan to the Local Government.
- Encourage licensed venues and entertainment events to participate in Drug Aware convenience advertising campaigns.⁸

Police

- Enforcement of Misuse of Drugs Act 1981.
- Enforcement of the Cannabis Infringement Notice Scheme (Cannabis Control Act 2003).
- Diversion of minor offenders for possession of drugs other than cannabis to treatment through the All Drug Diversion Program.

Health

- Promote the Drug Aware message through local media opportunities (reactive and proactive).⁸
- Promote the Drug Aware website as a tool that provides young people and the community with information about drugs (www.drugaware.com.au).⁸
- Support the development and implementation of local strategies that use materials from the Drug Aware Program (eg convenience advertising in licensed venues).⁸
- Encourage pharmacies to display and distribute educational Drug Aware publications about drugs.⁸
- Encourage pharmacies to distribute targeted harm reduction educational publications about drugs with Fitpacks®.⁸

Community

- Report any retailers of ice-pipes to the Department of Consumer and Employer Protection.
- Report any sales of cannabis smoking paraphernalia to minors to the Drug and Alcohol Office.

Other - Schools

- Implement the K-12 school drug education (including the implementation of the In-Touch program for children affected by drugs and alcohol).¹¹
- Involve parents and the wider community in the development of drug education programs.
- Support programs that promote connectedness between schools and their local community.

Issue 2: Street drinking



Factors that may contribute to the problem

Street Drinking

- Underage drinking.
- Irresponsible service of alcohol (by licensed venues and parents).
- Youth parties.
- Community not aware of the laws.

Examples of strategies (by stakeholder group)

NB not all stakeholders are listed here, this is a guide only. Strategies may be collaborative.

Local Government

- Encourage community surveillance and reporting of alcohol-related problems. Local Governments can develop and provide an electronic (via website) submission form to assist community residents and businesses to report problems.
- Explore the feasibility of implementing and monitoring CCTV.
- Liaise with other local councils that have implemented CCTV to understand best practice and use of CCTV.
- Improve lighting (temporary and permanent).
- Increase static and mobile security patrols in the community (where appropriate).
- Call a meeting of relevant stakeholders to clarify what the issues are and address the issues collaboratively.

Police

- Regularly inspect and patrol public places and known problem areas for street drinking.

Health

- Conduct parent education forums to inform them of the law, especially with regard to street drinking and supplying liquor to minors.
- Conduct an education campaign about street drinking laws. Note the campaign should focus on the law.

Community

- Discuss the problems associated with drunkenness within community groups and via local media.
- Visit www.rethinkdrink.com.au to find out what community members can do about alcohol-related problems.⁵

Other

- Licensees to display signage, posters and stickers in their premises to advise people about the liquor licensing law.⁴
- Tourist accommodation venues to display signage about the liquor laws in WA.

Issue 3: General public drunkenness



Factors that may contribute to the problem

Private Settings and Licensed Settings

- Irresponsible service of alcohol.
- Poorly controlled and/or supervised private parties.
- Community acceptance of drunkenness.

Examples of strategies (by stakeholder group)

NB not all stakeholders are listed here, this is a guide only. Strategies may be collaborative.

Local Government

- Review current policies to ensure community factors are low not high-risk for alcohol-related harm.
- Encourage community surveillance and reporting of alcohol-related problems. Local Governments can develop and provide a submission form to assist community residents and businesses to report incidents.
- Work collaboratively with Police, health services, community patrol and sobering-up centres, where they exist, to respond effectively to instances of public intoxication.

Police

- Encourage community members to register private parties with the WA Police Party Register.¹²
- Conduct enforcement of liquor licensing laws. Particularly provisions about service to intoxicated patrons.
- Work collaboratively with health services, community patrol and sobering-up centres, where they exist.

Health

- Advocate with other stakeholders for a change in the drinking culture.
- Conduct parent education forums to inform them of the law, especially with regard to supplying liquor to minors, alcohol-related problems / incidents in the area, and the influence adults have on their children.

Community

- Be involved in local licensing matters.
- Discuss the problems associated with drunkenness within community groups and via local media.
- Visit www.rethinkdrink.com.au to find out what community members can do about alcohol-related problems.⁵

Other

- Licensees to display signage, posters and stickers in their premises to advise people about the liquor licensing law.⁴
- Support bar staff, particularly casual bar staff to be trained in the responsible service of alcohol.
- Provide at a minimum a verbal briefing for new staff upon employment regarding responsible service principles.

Issue 4: Access to alcohol and other drug treatment and support services



Factors that may contribute to the problem

Under-Utilisation of Treatment Services

- Inadequate services for the community.
- Inadequate knowledge and services.
- Lack of support for services.

Examples of strategies (by stakeholder group)

NB not all stakeholders are listed here, this is a guide only. Strategies may be collaborative.

Local Government

- Allow existing needle and syringe exchange services (if currently operating) to operate on Local Government land.¹⁰
- Liaise with local alcohol and other drug treatment services, particularly Community Drug Service Teams to discuss and address issues relating to the availability and access to local treatment services.

Police

- Liaise with local alcohol and other drug treatment services, particularly Community Drug Service Teams to discuss and address issues relating to the availability and access to local treatment services.

Health

- Promote local treatment and support services available in the Local Government area and the Alcohol and Drug Information Service.
- Develop effective linkages between local mainstream general and mental health services and drug and alcohol treatment services, particularly Community Drug Service Teams.

Other - Department Of Health (Sexual Health and Blood-Borne Virus Program)

- Support the establishment of needle and syringe exchange services in appropriate locations by service providers (if not currently operating).¹⁰

3. Inappropriate strategies not supported by the evidence of best practice

The following table lists a number of strategies that are not supported by the evidence as being effective. This also lists alternative strategies, which are evidence based.

Strategy type	Ineffective Strategies	Best Practice Strategies	Explanation
Community education	<p>Personal drinking messages (eg drink less, regrettable behaviour (individual). Note: personal drinking messages are appropriate in one-on-one settings such as with GPs, treatment and counselling services, community health settings and in brief interventions.</p>	<p>Support the Rethink Drink Alcohol Education Program with local strategies, including raising awareness about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The negative impact of drunkenness on the community. ■ The cultural factors that support harm (eg acceptance of drunken behaviour, role models, availability). ■ How to create safer drinking settings. ■ Existing liquor licensing laws (to support bar staff). ■ Appropriate behaviour relating to drinking. 	<p>The evidence indicates that although strategies that focus on personal drinking messages increase awareness, there is minimal impact on creating long-term behaviour change. This is because unless a person is supported culturally (eg role models and drunken behaviour not accepted), in the context they are drinking in (eg with friends and workmates) and in the setting they are in (eg safe drinking venue with responsible service) it is difficult for them to change the way they drink despite their best intentions.</p> <p>Appealing to the 'community collective' about accepted community standards for behaviour and safer drinking settings has a greater chance of making a difference because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Patrons are less likely to harass bar staff if they understand the staff are just abiding by the law - leading to more responsible service. ■ Licensees and managers are more likely to create safer environments where people can enjoy a drink without problems if the public expect it. ■ Private hosts will have a better understanding of their duty of care and so will their guests. ■ More individuals will understand how their decisions impact on others in the community (eg 'getting drunk is okay as long as it doesn't impact on others'). ■ More members of the community will expect not to be impacted upon by others' alcohol use and will act (at the community level) to reduce harm and question why it is occurring.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Distributing 'showbags' of publications. 	<p>Targeted strategies to provide information by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not presenting too many messages at once. ■ Brief intervention (health settings, community settings) to discuss with individuals their concerns and provide relevant information or a referral to a service (such as the Alcohol and Drug Information Service). 	<p>Generally the distribution of 'showbags', which contain a range of publications, wastes materials as the information does not reach the target audience (it is generally not read). It is better use of time and resources to provide individuals with information that they need and have requested.</p>
School drug education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ One-off school lectures, short-term programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Development of policies and implementation of the School Drug Education and Road Aware school drug education curriculum. 	<p>The evidence supports the delivery of structured alcohol education curriculum in schools by classroom teachers.</p>
Running community services/ programs in treatment facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hosting programs in buildings which are purpose-built and funded to provide a different service. For example: running youth activities in a sobering-up centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hosting programs in a location that does not impact on the provision of another service. 	<p>Community programs are often run out of buildings that support other services. This may have a negative effect on the services normally provided from the particular site if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The program utilises and does not pay for the cost of amenities such as air-conditioning, heating, water, stationary, computer equipment etc. ■ The program is funded from budget surpluses of the normal service. Surpluses and the budget of the service may not always be recurrent.
Community events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conducting large one-off youth events that are not part of on going community programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conducting on-going youth events that involve young people. 	<p>Youth events are generally more successful if youth are involved in the planning of the event. Youth involvement provides young people with a degree of ownership of the event and will also increase the likelihood that youth will attend the event.</p>
Voluntary agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Accords without enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Accords operating alongside enforcement. 	<p>The evidence finds that voluntary agreements without enforcement by Police and Local Governments are not effective.</p>

4. Existing alcohol and drug programs

Activities and Strategies

1. Local government alcohol policy and management plan

In collaboration with Local Government bodies, the Prevention Branch of the Drug and Alcohol Office has been developing a resource to assist Local Governments to develop a whole-of-organisation approach to alcohol.

In 2007, the new resource titled 'Local Government Alcohol Management Package - A toolkit to assist Western Australian Local Governments' was released. The resource includes a step-by-step guide to developing an alcohol policy and management package. In addition the resource includes advice on developing and implementing harm minimisation strategies to address alcohol-related harm.

Prevention Branch (Alcohol Programs) - Drug and Alcohol Office
Telephone: 9370 0358. Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

2. Alcohol accords

Accords are best practice agreements usually between licensees, Police, Local Government, health and the community to work together to reduce alcohol-related harm. While most Accords operate within a similar framework, each Accord is different and focuses on issues that are relevant to the local community. Accords provide an ideal communication forum for these key stakeholders to address alcohol issues at a local level.

Whilst Accords are best established and coordinated by local Police, the Drug and Alcohol Office can provide some advice and assistance with Accords.

Prevention Branch (Alcohol Programs) - Drug and Alcohol Office
Telephone: 9370 0358. Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

3. Health agencies assisting the Executive Director of Public Health in liquor licence applications

The Executive Director of Public Health has an ability under the Liquor Control Act 1988 to be involved in liquor licensing matters to minimise harm or ill-health due to the use of alcohol.

On behalf of the Executive Director of Public Health, the Alcohol Prevention Programs Branch of the Drug and Alcohol Office provides advice and support on licensing issues. This includes the investigation of liquor licence applications throughout WA where there is a potential risk for alcohol-related harm or problems to occur. Investigations are also conducted regarding existing licences linked to alcohol-related problems in the community. Investigations are done on a case-by-case basis and involve the consideration of information gathered from local key stakeholders such as Police, Local Government and health professionals.

Prevention Branch (Alcohol Programs) - Drug and Alcohol Office
Telephone: 9370 0358. Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

4. Display of posters and stickers about the liquor licensing law in licensed premises

The Drug and Alcohol Office produces a series of posters about patrons and licensees obligations under the Liquor Control Act 1988. Copies of these posters can be obtained free of charge from DAO.

Prevention Branch (Alcohol Programs) - Drug and Alcohol Office
Telephone: 9370 0358. Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

5. Rethink Drink alcohol education program

The Rethink Drink Alcohol Education Program is a long-term program that aims to reduce the level of alcohol-related harm in Western Australia that results from drunkenness.

The program is coordinated by the Prevention Branch of the Drug and Alcohol Office. The program has a strong community and professional support element, and can assist with the development and implementation of local projects that promote the Rethink Drink message.

Prevention Branch (Alcohol Programs) - Drug and Alcohol Office
Telephone: 9370 0358. Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

6. Responsible service of alcohol training

Responsible service of alcohol training can reduce the likelihood of alcohol-related harm. Drunken behaviour and its consequences are directly related to the availability of alcohol and to alcohol serving practices. Responsible service of alcohol (RSA) training for all staff working in licensed premises will assist them in:

- knowing their obligations under the Liquor Control Act 1988;
- being able to correctly identify people under 18 years of age and applying acceptable proof of age identification practices;
- preventing the rapid consumption of alcohol by patrons; and
- preventing the continued service of alcohol to intoxicated or disorderly patrons.

Accredited training is provided by a number of organisations including Aragon and Associates, Australian Hotels Association Western Australia, Clubs WA and Central TAFE. Information regarding accredited training courses can be obtained through the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor.

Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor
Telephone: 9425 1888. Address: Level 1, 87 Adelaide Terrace, East Perth WA 6004. Website: www.drql.wa.gov.au

4. Existing alcohol and drug programs

Activities and Strategies

7. Night Venues and Entertainment Events project

Night Venues and Entertainment Events Project is part of the Drug Aware Education Program (see below).

The project targets the high-risk group of people who attend night venues and entertainment events.

This project offers regular training in alcohol and other drug harm minimisation and policy development to staff and managers of licensed venues and entertainment events.

Prevention Branch - Drug and Alcohol Office

Telephone: 9370 0358. Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

8. Drug Aware education program

The overall aim of the Drug Aware education program is to prevent and delay illegal drug use, reduce the harms associated with illegal drug use and increase access to support services at an early stage. The program targets youth aged 14 to 24 years of age.

The program conducts a number of strategies, including:

- Press advertisements: educational advertisements in youth street press publications (such as X-Press Magazine, Zebra).
- Radio advertisements: educational radio advertisements on community youth radio stations (such as Nova, GrooveFM and RTR) and regional radio stations.
- Convenience advertising: producing educational posters and displaying these in the washrooms of popular night venues and at events across the state.
- Community-based education: the program supports community-based education initiatives in conjunction with Community Drug Service Teams, Population Health Units and Local Drug Action Groups.
- Pharmacy education: the program encourages pharmacies across the state to display and distribute information booklets and pamphlets about drugs produced by the Drug and Alcohol Office. The program also encourages pharmacies to distribute drug information with the sale of Fitpacks ®.
- Referral to treatment and support services: the program promotes treatment and support services available through Community Drug Service Teams and the Alcohol and Drug Information Service.

The program is divided into four sub-projects, each focusing on specific drug-related issues, including Amphetamines, Cannabis, Drug Driving and Night Venues.

Prevention Branch (Drug Programs) Drug and Alcohol Office

Telephone: 9370 0358 Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

9. Monitoring retailers of cannabis paraphernalia

The Cannabis Control Act 2003 requires retailers of cannabis paraphernalia to display a health warning notice and make educational information about cannabis available. This signage and publications are available from the Drug and Alcohol Office.

Prevention Branch (Drug Programs) Drug and Alcohol Office

Telephone: 9370 0358 Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

10. Needle and syringe exchange services

The Department of Health coordinates needle and syringe exchange services across WA that aim to reduce the transmission of blood-borne viruses amongst people who inject drugs. The service distributes sterile equipment and collects and disposes of used equipment. The service also provides education about blood-borne viruses and makes referrals to treatment services.

Sexual Health and Blood-Borne Virus Program, Department of Health, WA

Telephone: 9388 4841

11. School Drug Education and Road Aware

School drug education describes alcohol and other drug-related prevention and reduction activities that target school-aged children by both classroom teachers and other professionals in a school environment. Sound evidence-based school interventions can change existing and future alcohol and drug consumption and reduce the risk of developing alcohol and drug-related problems.

School Drug Education and Road Aware can provide professional development for teachers and school staff, curriculum material and classroom resources and support the school community in establishing and maintaining a comprehensive drug education program.

School Drug Education and Road Aware

Telephone: 9264 4743 Address: 151 Royal Street, East Perth 6004

12. WA Police party register

The WA Police encourage community members to advise them about parties in their local area. This can help Police to provide assistance if a party gets out of control. Parties can be registered by completing a party registration form from your local Police Station or by downloading a form from the website:

www.nhw.wa.gov.au/Publications/135.aspx

Local Police Station

13. Local Drug Action Groups

Local Drug Action Groups focus on engaging and supporting communities. Emphasis is on local and practical action and grass roots community development. Youth, parents and the broader community are involved in planning and participating in projects that aim to prevent and reduce drug-related harm in their local communities.

There are currently 60 Local Drug Action Groups operating throughout Western Australia.

Local Drug Action Groups Inc.

Telephone: 9370 0333 Address: 7 Field Street, Mt Lawley WA 6050

Email: ldaginc@health.wa.gov.au

5. Sample community safety and crime prevention plan

No	Actions	Key Stakeholders	Outcomes	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
1.	Strategy: Develop a Local Government alcohol policy and management plan ¹ to support whole-of-organisation approach to prevent and manage alcohol problems	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug and Alcohol Office. Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor. Department of Health. Office of Crime Prevention. Department of Community Development. Licensed premises. Community members. Local businesses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of liquor licences using a strategic approach and vision to best meet the needs of the whole community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug and Alcohol Office training. Internal or external consultant time and resources to prepare strategic planning workshops and report. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Planning Report. Compliance to process developed for evaluating liquor licence applications. Ongoing review of strategic plan.
2.	Strategy: Address alcohol-related problems that occur at licensed events	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed premises. Drug and Alcohol Office. Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor. Department of Health. Office of Crime Prevention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of alcohol-related problems at events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Health Officer time to inspect events. Time to prepare and follow-up issuing of infringements. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of alcohol-related incidences at events. Number and quality of management plans submitted. Number of visits made to events. Number of alcohol-free events.

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No	Actions	Key Stakeholders	Outcomes	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
3.	Strategy: Address alcohol and drug-related problems that occur at licensed venues					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Inspect and monitor licensed premises for compliance with their Certificate of Approval (maximum capacity and use of the building), Section 39 and 40 certificates, noise regulations and any other relevant local laws or policies (particularly for council owned premises).Engage with licensed venues on appropriate risk management strategies.Encourage managers and staff of night venues and entertainment events to complete the Night Venues and Entertainment Events Project training in alcohol and drug risk management.Conduct targeted policing of licensed premises to ensure compliance with liquor licensing laws and conditions on licence.Encourage licensed premises to employ non-violent crowd controllers.Licensees to encourage communication between staff (including bar staff, glassies and crowd controllers) about problems in premises.Licensees / managers to support staff to serve responsibly.Work with other nearby licensees to review public transport options and possible alternatives.Establish and coordinate an alcohol accord² between Police, Local Government, licensed premises and health and the community.See also strategy 4.	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Local Government.Police.Licensed premises. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Drug and Alcohol Office.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduction in alcohol and drug-related incidences at licensed venues.Increased compliance with liquor licensing laws.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Local Government and Police time to inspect and monitor premises.Resources and training for Night Venues Entertainment Events Project training are provided by the Drug and Alcohol Office.Advice about the establishment of alcohol accords available from the Drug and Alcohol Office.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of visits to licensed premises.Record keeping of visits and outcomes.Number of infringements against licensed premises.Number of licensed premises completing the Night Venues Entertainment Events Project training.
4.	Strategy: Education of bar staff and hotel patrons about the responsible service of alcohol and liquor licensing law					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Educate licensees and bar staff about the liquor licensing laws and their responsibilities by conducting responsible service of alcohol training in collaboration with health agencies.⁶Regularly inspect and patrol licensed premises to ensure that alcohol is not sold to people under 18 years of age, and that premises comply with other liquor licensing laws.Licensees to display signage, posters and stickers that educate people about the liquor licensing law (specifically sales to minors).⁴Promote a safer drinking environment by training staff in non-aggressive patron management techniques.Educate licensees about how to create safer drinking environments (contact the Drug and Alcohol Office).Licensees / managers to support bar staff to serve responsibly.Licensees / managers to provide at a minimum a verbal briefing for new staff upon employment regarding responsible service principles.	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Licensed premises. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Police alcohol and drug advisers.Drug and Alcohol Office.Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor.Department of Health.Office of Crime Prevention.Community residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Increased awareness of liquor licensing laws and related penalties.Reduction in the number of intoxicated persons leaving the licensed venues and drinking in public places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Some signage and posters are available through the Drug and Alcohol Office.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of complaints to council and Police regarding intoxicated people leaving hotels.Compliance to liquor licensing laws.Level of bar staff awareness of liquor licensing laws.

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No	Actions	Key Stakeholders	Outcomes	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
4.	continued			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police and Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor to conduct targeted policing of liquor licensing. Local Government to identify and distribute liquor licensing awareness material in appropriate public spaces. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of times licensed premises have been Policed. Outcomes of targeted policing and follow-up.
5.	Strategy: Educate parents and businesses about drug and alcohol-related issues and strategies	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government. Department of Health (local offices). Community Drug Service Team. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug and Alcohol Office. Police. School Drug Education and Road Aware project. Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor. Local Drug Action Group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise parents understanding of their responsibilities and influences on youth drinking behaviour. Raise businesses awareness of liquor licensing laws and increase monitoring of compliance to these laws. Improved recording and understanding of alcohol-related incidents. Increased understanding about drug-related issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community forum preparation, awareness raising activities, catering, multimedia equipment, handouts, and follow-up. Awareness activities such as media advertisements, newsletter articles and letters to businesses / residents advising of forum and reporting of alcohol-related issues and strategies. The Drug and Alcohol Office provide advice and resources about the Rethink Drink and Drug Aware campaigns. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of awareness raising activities. Number of community forums held. Number of people attending the community forums. Feedback received at the forums via feedback sheets.

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No	Actions	Key Stakeholders	Outcomes	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
6.	Strategy: Address street drinking and related anti-social behaviour					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explore the feasibility of implementing and monitoring CCTV.Liaise with other local councils that have implemented CCTV to understand best practice and use of CCTV.Improve lighting (temporary and permanent).Increase static and mobile security patrols in the community.Call a meeting of relevant stakeholders to clarify what the issues are and address the issues collaboratively.Regularly inspect and patrol public places and known problem areas for street drinking.Conduct an education campaign about street drinking laws that includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Licensees displaying signage, posters and stickers in their premises to advise people about the liquor licensing law.⁴Conducting parent education forums to inform them of the law, especially with regard to street drinking and supplying liquor to minors.Discussing the problems associated with drunkenness within community groups and via local media.Displaying signage about the liquor laws in tourist accommodation venues.Promoting www.rethinkdrink.com.au as a tool for community members to help them find out what they can do about alcohol-related problems.⁵	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Local Government.Police.Licensees and business. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community groups.Licensees and businesses.Sobering-up shelters (where they exist).Local Drug Action Group.Health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduction in street drinking and anti-social behaviour.Increased knowledge about street drinking laws.Increased sense of public safety amongst the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Internal or external consultant time and resources to conduct feasibility study outlining hot spots, expected outcomes, projected costs and recommendations.Lighting and security patrols costs met by Local Government.Time to coordinate stakeholder meetings.Environmental Health Officer time to inspect public places.Time to coordinate an education campaign. Some resources available from the Drug and Alcohol Office.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Feasibility study report.Awareness and compliance with laws relating to street drinking.Number of inspections.
7.	Strategy: Educate school children about alcohol and drugs					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Implement the K-12 school drug education (including the implementation of the In-Touch program for children affected by alcohol and drugs).¹¹Involve parents and the wider community in the development of drug education programs.	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Local school. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none">School Drug Education and Road Aware Project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduction of school alcohol and drug problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Teacher training provided by the School Drug Education and Road Aware Project.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of teachers trained in School Drug Education and Road Aware Project.

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No	Actions	Key Stakeholders	Outcomes	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
8.	Strategy: Enhance access and utilisation of treatment and support services					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow existing needle and syringe exchange services (if currently operating) to operate on Local Government land.¹⁰ Support the establishment of needle and syringe exchange services in appropriate locations by service providers (if not currently operating).¹⁰ Liaise with local alcohol and other drug treatment services, particularly Community Drug Service Teams to discuss and address issues relating to the availability and access to local treatment services. Conduct a thorough analysis of alcohol-related strategies and services available in the Local Government area. Identify gaps or overlaps in strategies and service. Make recommendations about how to address the gaps or overlaps in services to best meet the needs of the community. Promote local treatment and support services available in the Local Government area and the Alcohol and Drug Information Service. Encourage pharmacies to display and distribute educational publications about drugs.⁸ Encourage pharmacies to distribute educational publications about drugs with Fitpacks®.⁸ 	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police. Department of Health (Sexual Health and Blood-Borne Virus Program). Community Drug Service Team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise use of available resources. Provision of adequate services. Reduction in inappropriate disposal of needles and syringes. Reduced transmission of blood-borne viruses. Better health outcomes for people who inject drugs. Increased access to alcohol and drug treatment services and education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal or external consultant time and resources to conduct mapping and gapping analysis and to develop recommendations. Needle and syringe exchange services are funded by the Department of Health and Commonwealth of Australia. Educational publications available from the Drug and Alcohol Office. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping and gapping analysis report. Number of presentations to services. Number of sterile syringes distributed and number of used syringes collected. Reduction in number of transmissions of blood-borne viruses. Number of educational publications distributed.
9.	Strategy: Data collection / community action to support responses to reduce alcohol problems					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect alcohol-related data such as security services callouts (to parties, property damage, anti-social behaviour), cleanup costs (alcohol containers litter, broken glass and property damage) and resident complaints. Collate the data and map in terms of alcohol hot spots (eg local park, licensed venues or other public space). Share this information with other agencies to respond to local alcohol issues. Collect local alcohol-related harm data from health services (eg hospital admissions and sobering-up shelter data). Conduct a community safety audit. Encourage community surveillance and reporting of alcohol-related problems. Local Governments can develop and provide an electronic (via website) submission form to assist community residents and businesses to report incidents. Report incidences of sales to minors to the Police, Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor and/or the Local Government. Encourage businesses to report alcohol-related crimes and anti-social behaviour to Local Government and Police. 	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Health. Community Drug Service Team. Community groups. Businesses. Local Drug Action Group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better knowledge about alcohol and drug-related issues. Improved ability to effectively respond to alcohol and drug-related issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal or external time to develop data collection methods, collect data and establish databases to record information. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports produced from data. Number of reports received from community members and businesses.

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No	Actions	Key Stakeholders	Outcomes	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
10.	Strategy: Monitor retailers of cannabis paraphernalia for compliance with the requirements of the Cannabis Control Act 2003					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report all retailers of cannabis paraphernalia⁹ to the Drug and Alcohol Office, who maintains a register of all retailers. Monitor retailers of cannabis paraphernalia to ensure that they are displaying the required health warning notice and have educational information about cannabis resources available.⁹ Monitor retailers of cannabis paraphernalia for any sales to minors (Note: it is illegal to sell paraphernalia to a minor). Report the name and address of retailers who do not comply with the legislation to the Drug and Alcohol Office. 	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government. Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Health. Community Drug Service Team. Police. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance by retailers with the Cannabis Control Act 2003. Increased community awareness about the health effects of cannabis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff time for Local Government to inspect retailers and report any findings to the Drug and Alcohol Office. Staff time for Local Government if required to give evidence in legal proceedings. Copies of the health warning notice and cannabis education publications provided by the Drug and Alcohol Office. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of retailers displaying correct signage and information. Number of times premises inspected.
11.	Strategy: Inspect and report any retailers who sell 'ice-pipes' (note the sale of 'ice-pipes' has been banned by the Consumer Protection Commissioner under WA Consumer Protection Laws)					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any retailers of 'ice-pipes' to the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection. 	Lead agency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Consumer and Employment Protection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased number of retailers illegally selling 'ice-pipes' in WA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff time for Police and/or Local Government to inspect retailers and report any findings to the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection. Staff time for Police and/or Local Government if required to give evidence in legal proceedings. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of times premises inspected. Number of retailers reported to Department of Consumer and Employment Protection.



Government of **Western Australia**
Drug and Alcohol Office

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