

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Purick to Minister for Alcohol Policy

Alcohol Identity Scanners

1. How many Identification Scanner Machines (ISM) have been installed across the Northern Territory in licensed premises in the following areas: Darwin (including rural area), Palmerston, Katherine, Batchelor, Pine Creek, Jabiru, Nhulunbuy, Groote Eylandt, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs and the balance of the Northern Territory?

Answer:

As part of the 'Enough is Enough' Alcohol Reform, a total of 262 scanning devices have been deployed in the period up to 30 November 2011.

The following breakdown identifies the type of device, and the region to which the licensed premises relate.

Region Identifier	BDR Device
Darwin and Palmerston	145
Katherine Region, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek	87
Nhulunbuy	Not yet rolled out
Groote Eylandt	Not yet rolled out
NT Balance	30
Total	262

2. What was the cost of each machine?

Answer:

The budgeted cost of purchasing and installing the ID scanning system(s) (BDR), including all hardware into takeaway licensed venues across the Northern Territory is \$3.4M. This applies across all stages of the Reform, and includes costs of those sites which are yet to be commissioned.

Delivery and installation varies dependent upon the location and layout of the individual premises. It is estimated that the installation costs for premises within the Darwin metro area is up to \$20,000 per site and regional or remote areas is up to \$25,000 per site. This includes all associated technology infrastructure, hardware and travel costs.

3. What was the total cost to install the machines?

Answer:

BDR installation costs vary dependent upon the location and layout of individual premises. Installation costs to date are within budgeted projections. See above response.

As not all systems are required to be installed as at 30 November 2011, a total installation cost is not yet available.

4. Which company or companies were contracted to install the machines?

Answer:

The company contracted to install the BDR devices is CSG/DELL.

CSG/DELL is part of a Whole of Government contract and was required to provide:

- the initial advice on equipment specifications;
- the purchase and installation of the BDR terminals, scanners and associated router equipment.

5. What was the price of the contract (s)?

Answer:

CSG / Dell contract is a Whole of Government contract, and the project has not been completed. Consequently final installation costs are not yet available.

The budget for purchasing and installing the ID scanning system(s) (BDR) into licensed takeaway venues across the Northern Territory is \$3.4M. This applies across all stages of the Reform, and includes costs to those sites not yet commissioned.

Delivery and installation varies dependent upon the location and layout of the individual premises. It is estimated that the installation costs for premises within the Darwin metro area is up to \$20,000 per site and regional or remote areas is up to \$25,000 per site. This includes all associated technology infrastructure and travel costs.

6. What was the cost of providing training for staff to know how to use the machines?

Answer:

Training was delivered by Department of Justice staff as part of their current role(s).

7. Who undertook the training and for how long did it take to deliver?

Answer:

Training is delivered by licensing inspectors. As the system is very user friendly, training sessions last for approximately 30 minutes depending on the number of staff being trained.

8. What was the cost to business in having staff off line to undertake the training?

Answer:

It is not appropriate for the Department of Justice to provide costing on behalf of the Liquor and Hospitality Industry.

9. How many licensed premises do not have a machine installed as of today's date?

Answer:

Of the licensed venues in the Territory, only those with non exempt takeaway capacity are required to have a scanning system. Exemptions are provided to those premises which provide takeaway alcohol to bona fide guests such as in mini bar or catering purposes.

A total of 190 premises have been fitted with scanning systems as at 30 November 2011. The remaining seven sites are due to be completed by 30 June 2012 and currently have an electronic permit system which refuses permit holders who are on the BDR.

Over 96% of sites within the Territory now have BDR scanning devices in place. We have met projected timelines and in fact installation of equipment is ahead of schedule.

10. How many machines have gone 'off line" and for how long?

Answer:

The processing system has never been off line. Service times form a component of the system management agreements. This ensures licensees have contact with a technician to resolve any issues if they occur.

11. What is the average time to repair a machine that is faulty?

Answer:

If a machine is 'faulty' and required to be removed for repairs, a replacement machine is commissioned into service. The Northern Territory Government has ensured that spare devices are available in event of a fault, or unforeseen issue (for example fire/ break in at the premises).

The repair times fall within the accepted parameters, and no delays have been experienced.

12. When will the Government include shooter's licenses as part of the photo Id?

Answer:

The Northern Territory Government assessed the identification types available to Territorians, visitors and tourists. Of the identification documentation which met security requirements; those most prevalent/available to the majority were selected for the system. This includes:

- NT and other Australian drivers licenses;
- NT and other Australian evidence of age cards;
- Passports and;
- Ochre Card

A high proportion of NT Shooters licences are issued to persons either already possessing an evidence of age card or drivers licence. Adding a new ID type to the system is both a costly and lengthy process that requires a number of templates to be developed and other operational procedures.

The NT Government has ensured that specialised customer representatives are available for clients of Births, Deaths and Marriages, and the Motor Vehicle Registry to ensure approved identification can be obtained. These documents were also provided free of charge for a four month period to further assist people obtain the approved ID.