

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Lambley to the Chief Minister:

Liquor Licence

The NT Auditor General raised in her November 2021 Report to the NT Legislative Assembly a liquor licence that was issued on 2 September 2021 to the "Department of Chief Minister" that was not assessed or approved by the NT Licensing Commission.

Please provide the full details of this liquor licence.

1. What is the specific nature, purpose, terms and scope of this liquor licence?
2. What event, business, function, service or otherwise is this liquor licence for?
3. Who are the planned patrons of the liquor that will be served or provided under this liquor licence?
4. What are the precise terms and conditions of this liquor licence?
5. Who exactly approved this liquor licence?
6. Please provide a full explanation of how this liquor licence was procured within Government.
7. Under exactly what policy, procedure or law was this liquor licence approved and issued outside of the standard NT Liquor Licensing procedures?
8. Who exactly is the licensee?
9. Is the licensee a public servant named Mr John Swan? If so, what is the position held by Mr Swan that makes him suitable or qualified to hold a liquor licence on behalf of the NT Department of Chief Minister?
10. Does Mr Swan (or the licensee) hold a Responsible Service of Alcohol qualification? What date did the licensee obtain their RSA qualification?
11. Will other people be employed to serve alcohol under this licence? Please provide details.
12. Why was the usual process of applying for a liquor licence not followed?
13. Why does the Department of Chief Minister need a liquor licence? Please provide details.
14. What is the cost to tax payers of the Department of Chief Minister holding and operating a liquor licence?

15. Will this liquor license be operating in competition with other privately held liquor licenses?
 16. What is the plan to provide or sell alcohol using this liquor licence?
 17. Will the Department of Chief Minister be using this liquor licence to sell alcohol or provide alcohol free?
 18. What alcohol products will the Department of Chief Minister sell?
 19. What will be the cost of the alcohol products sell?
 20. What address will the Department of Chief Minister sell or provide the alcohol from?
 21. Who will be the customers or recipients of the alcohol served or provided by the Department of Chief Minister with this liquor licence?
 22. Can other groups, individuals, NT public servants or NT Government Departments bypass the NT Liquor Commission to obtain a liquor licence, like the Department of Chief Minister has?
 23. If so, how exactly can they do this?
 24. Is this liquor licence and the way in which it was issued by Government for Government in keeping with the Riley Review into Alcohol in the NT?
 25. How many other liquor licences has the NT Government issued to the Government?
 26. How many other liquor licences has the Department of Chief Minister issued to the Department of Chief Minister?
 27. Is the Department of Chief Minister above the rules, procedures and laws that all other Territorians must follow?
 28. Is the process used to obtain this liquor licence "improper" or corrupt?
 29. Why this liquor licence was kept secret by the Department of Chief Minister?
 30. Has this liquor licence been obtained through illegal means?
 31. Has this liquor license been obtained through the misuse of power and delegation of a (or a number of) public servant(s)?
 32. What is the full explanation as to why this unorthodox, irregular and highly suspicious process was used to obtain a liquor licence by the Department of Chief Minister?
 33. Given that all Public Officers have a mandatory obligation to report "suspected improper conduct" to ICAC, should this matter be referred to ICAC by you, as the Chief Minister of the NT?
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Answer:

The Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (CM&C) has a Certificate of Registration for the workplaces' Social Club.

The application for, and grant of, CM&C's Certificate of Registration as a small community group was done in accordance with the *Liquor Act 2019* (NT). Registration as a small community group does not require a licensee. Being a licensee is a factor for ineligibility for registration for such a group under the Act.