

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Lambley to the Minister for Alcohol Policy:

Alcohol Caps for Supermarkets

In late 2020 the Northern Territory Government implemented a 25% cap on alcohol sales by Northern Territory supermarkets.

1. How was this strategy implemented?

Liquor licence conditions for grocery stores state liquor sales are to be an ancillary part of their business and they must at all times have the appearance of, and trade as, grocery stores.

After extensive consultations with industry, and the endorsement of Justice Riley, the transitional recommendation was amended and the cap was set at 25% through the *Liquor Regulations 2019*.

2. Please provide details of the 12 month audit of supermarkets selling alcohol.

This is self-reported by the licensee as part of their licence conditions.

3. Who is undertaking the audit of businesses compliance with this 25% cap?

Compliance activity for all liquor licensees is undertaken by Licensing NT.

4. How is the audit of these supermarkets being undertaken?

Refer to answer 2.

5. How many supermarkets in the Northern Territory sell alcohol?

47.

6. Are all these supermarkets subjected to this policy and audit?

Refer to answer 2

7. How many supermarkets included sales of alcohol of more than 25%?

13.

8. What exactly are the repercussions for supermarkets that breached the 25% cap of alcohol sales?

As outlined in regulation 112 of the *Liquor Regulations 2019*.

9. What penalties will be applied to businesses that breach this 25% cap?

All cases of non-compliance will be judged on their merits. Disciplinary action is a matter for the Liquor Commission.

10. What effect has this alcohol strategy had on minimising the consumption of alcohol in the Northern Territory?

This licence condition is a supply reduction initiative that forms part of the broader harm minimisation agenda that includes but is not limited to, the BDR, a floor price for alcohol and PALI's.

11. Has this strategy reduced the sale of alcohol? If so, provide details of the reduction.

Refer to answer 10.

12. How can you measure the effectiveness of this alcohol reduction strategy?

It will be assessed in conjunction with the suite of other alcohol harm reduction initiatives through measures such as alcohol attributable crime and anti-social behaviour; healthcare data and costs; road crash data; police data; and alcohol consumption rates.

13. What effect has this alcohol strategy had on minimising the secondary sale of alcohol in the Northern Territory?

Refer to answer 10.

14. How will the effectiveness of this strategy be measured?

Refer to answer 12.

15. How many people are employed by the Northern Territory Government to implement the annual audit of these businesses?

Refer to answer 2 and 3.

16. Will there be a review of this alcohol strategy? If so, please provide details.

Section 320 of the *Liquor Act 2019* requires a review of the Act after 3 years.