

Goldfields Esperance District Alcohol and Drug Advisory Unit.



Presented by:
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ADC – Goldfields Esperance
District.



Policing Liquor in WA

The History

- 1923 to 1996 Liquor Inspection Branch and later named Liquor and Gaming Branch
- Fitzgerald Inquiry (QLD)
- Wood Royal Commission (NSW)
- Commissioner Falconer APM and Delta transformation
- 1996 to 2007/08 – Generalised policing and the accord era
- In the late '90s, police largely dropped out of investigating licensing (liquor) breaches because of the smell of associated corruption. It meant the Racing Gaming & Liquor inspectors had to step into the area of public protection.
- Between 1996 and 2007 maximum of two ADC in each Police District
- 2007 Creation of the Licensing Enforcement Division (LED)

Why Change?

- **Alcohol and other drug use has a significant impact on the community and on the frontline resources of the WA Police.**
- **Police Commissioner *Karl O'Callaghan* said police were sick and tired of dealing with alcohol-related crime.**

Impact of alcohol on policing

- Alcohol has been shown to be involved in 62% of all police attendances, 73% of assaults and 90% of calls between 10pm and 2am.
- In addition, alcohol-related violence and abusive behaviour contributes towards a loss of public amenity. This erodes the community's perception of safety and de-stabilises public confidence in the police.
- The *Western Australian Police Drug and Alcohol Action Plan 2005-2009* outlines the contributions and directions of the WA Police in responding to alcohol and other drug problems in Western Australia.

Impact of alcohol on policing

AOD (alcohol and other drugs) have significant impact on the frontline services of the WAPOL. In summary, the range of drug related problems that police encounter includes:

- • drug possession, trafficking, cultivation, manufacture etc;
- • property crime;
- • fatal and non-fatal overdose;
- • violent crime;
- • assault;
- • domestic violence;
- • drink and drug driving;
- • child abuse and neglect;
- • sexual assault;
- • loss of public amenity
- • dangers to police from clandestine labs, violence and needle stick injuries.

Impact of alcohol on policing (Drink driving)

- **Drinking kills driving skills. Alcohol is responsible for just over a quarter of the people killed on our roads. With a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.05 the risk of being involved in a crash doubles, with a BAC of 0.08, you are seven times more likely to crash and 25 times more likely with a BAC of 0.15.**
- **Alcohol-related fatal crashes cost the Western Australian community more than \$75 million a year.**
- **In 2006 alcohol was a major factor in 26 per cent of road deaths.**
- **Intoxicated drivers involved in fatal crashes are three times more likely to have been speeding or not wearing a seat belt than sober drivers.**

Impact of alcohol on policing (Drink driving)

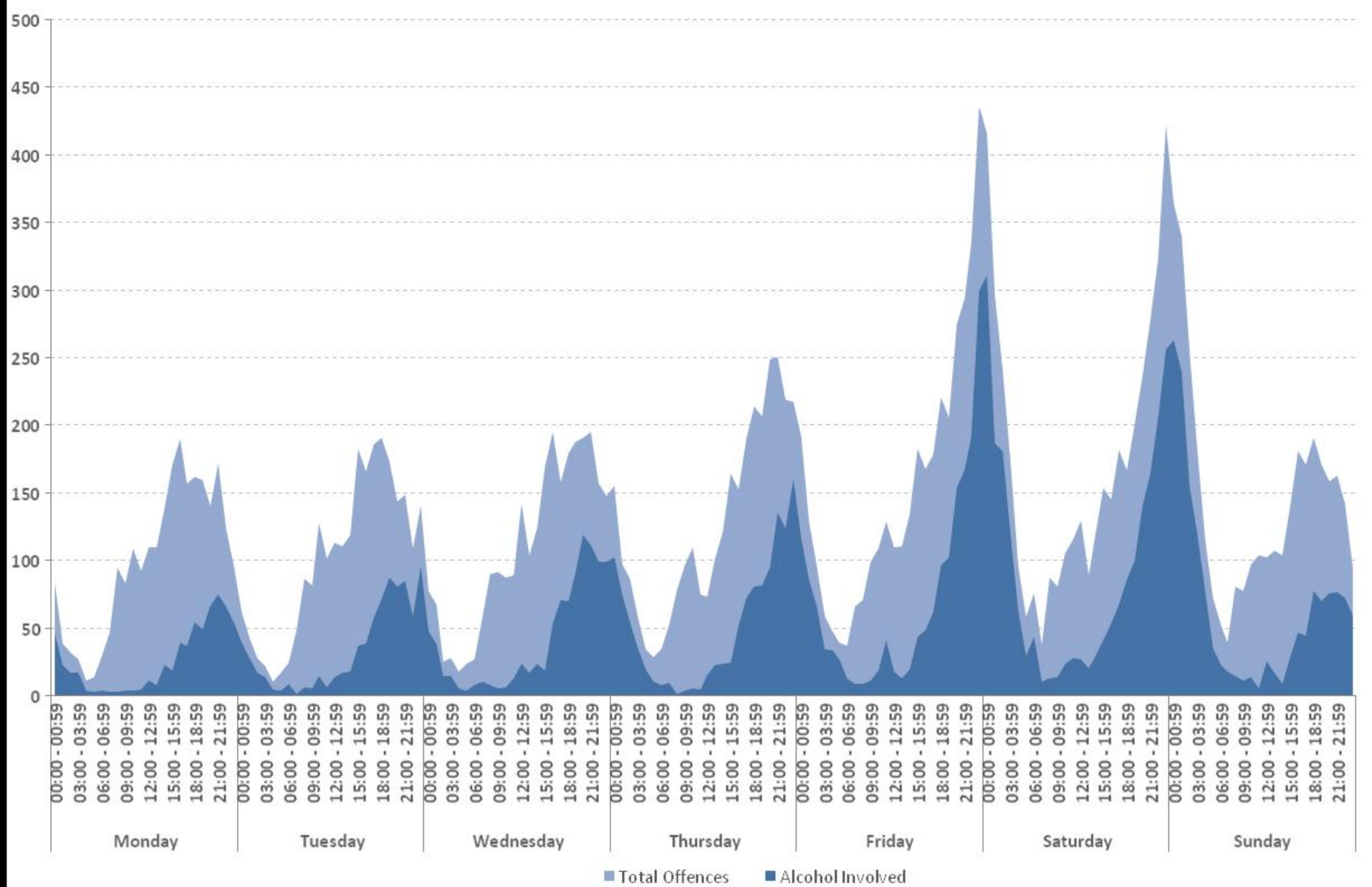
- In Western Australia in 2006-07 1,549 drivers were tested by Police and found to exceed the lawful alcohol limit. 60% were under the age of 30 years of age.
- 4,000 drink drivers are repeat drink drivers.
- 26% of fatal crashes involved a driver of a BAC greater than 0.05%.
- In a survey; (i) 20% considered it was morally acceptable to drive with their BAC between 0.05% and 0.08% (ii) 83% thought it was unlikely they would be stopped for a random breath test at any time of the day

Impact of alcohol on policing (Domestic Violence)

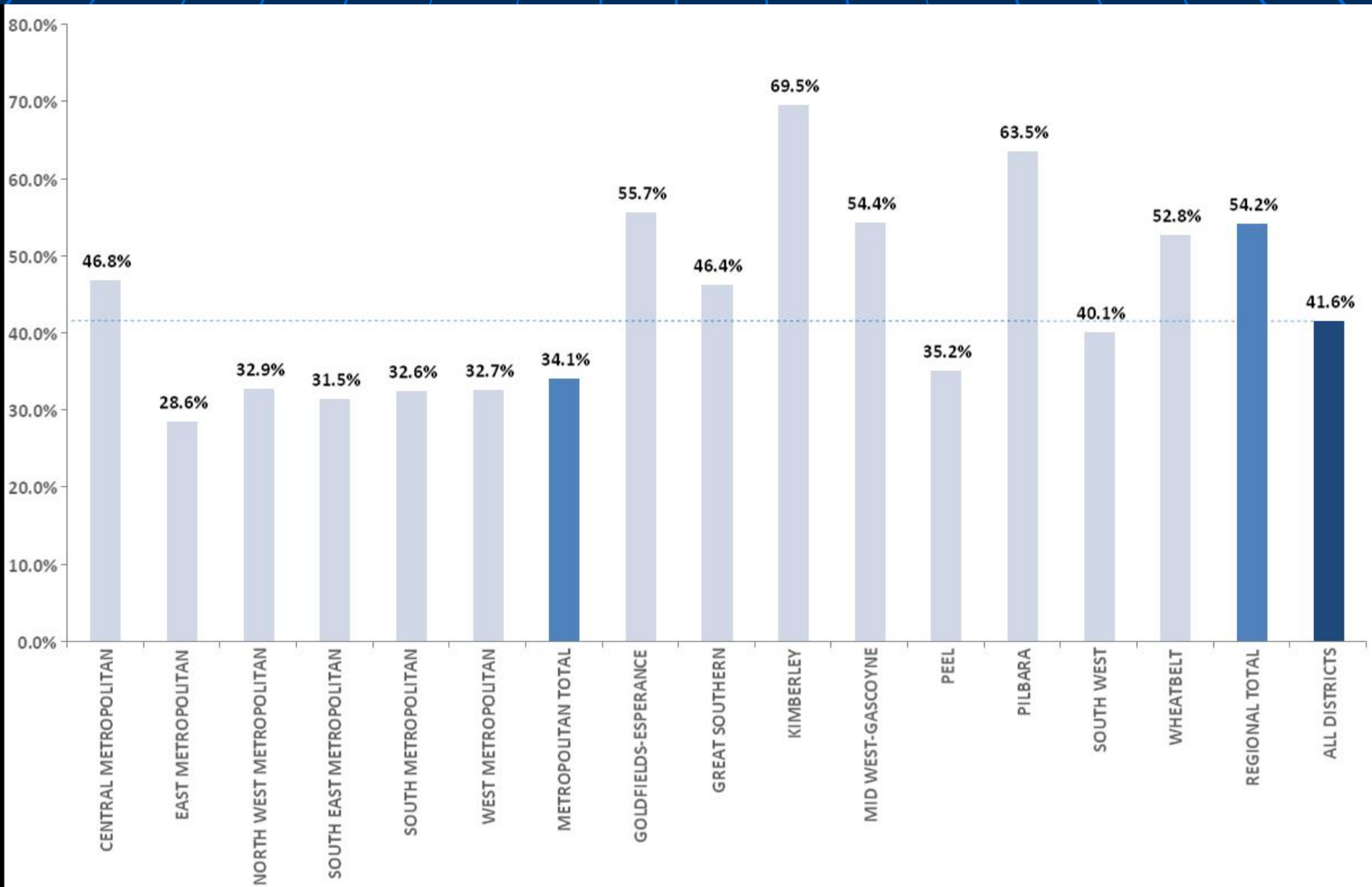
Goldfields-Esperance District

- In 2007 there were 1,549 DV (Domestic Violence) incidents reported to Police in the Goldfields.
- 832 incidents involved alcohol (conservative figure) 54%.
- Year to date 1,531 reports and 847 involved alcohol, an increase of 1.3%.
- On average Police can spend up to 90 minutes conducting initial investigations into a Domestic Violence related incident (equating to 97 days of Police time worked).

Assaults by Time of Day & Day of Week

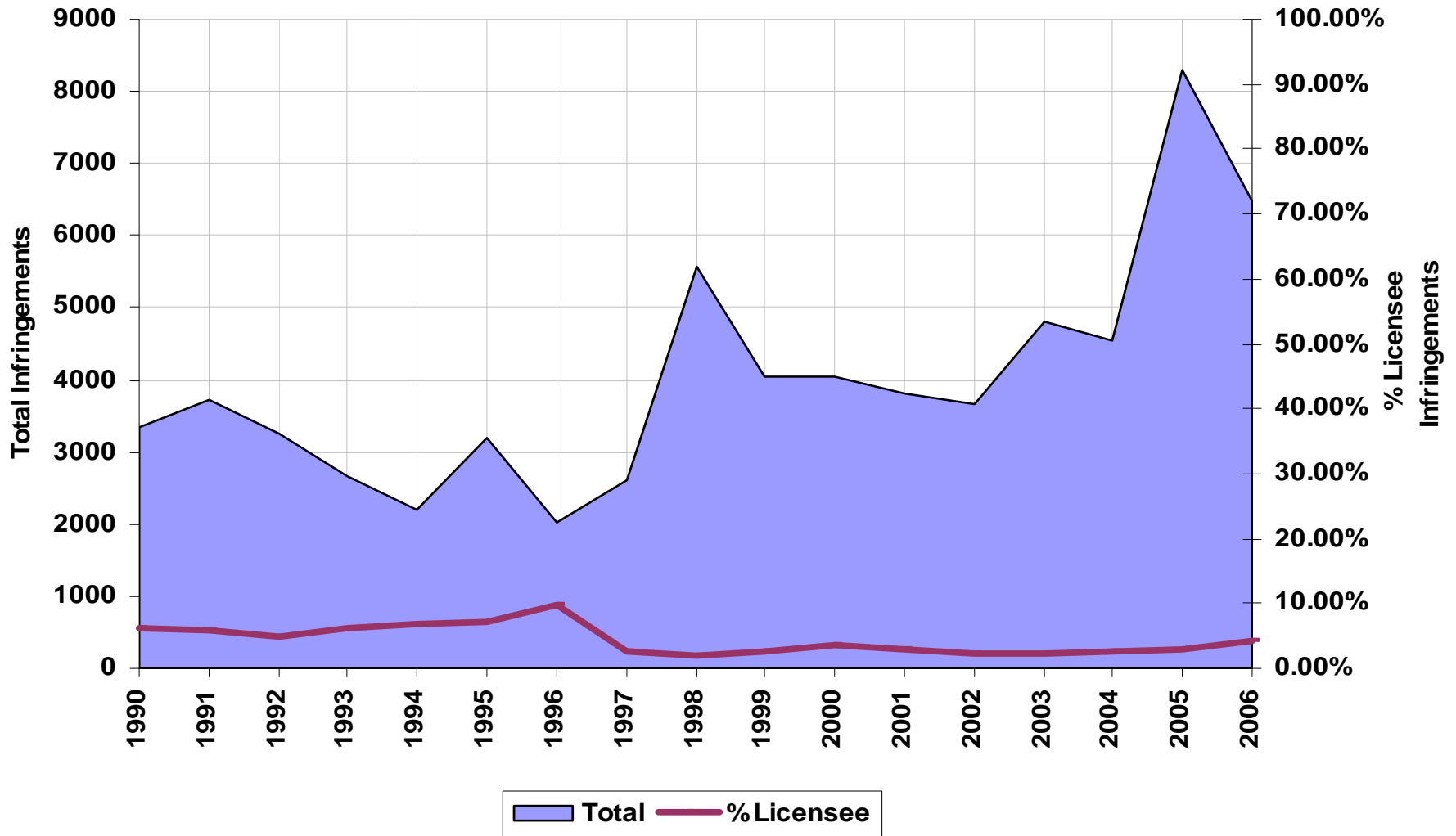


Percentage of Assaults Involving Alcohol, by Police District 2005/06



LIQUOR INFRINGEMENTS

Total Infringements 1990-2006





NOW

Licensing Enforcement Division –commenced operations in late 2007

- **Detective Superintendent**
- **Detective Inspector** **Detective Inspector** **Manager Licensing**
- **Policy** **Liquor Enforcement Unit** **Police Licensing**
- **Training** **Licensing Crime Squad** **Certification & Probity**
- **Legal** **District ADC (Local Supt)**
- **Intelligence**

- **Firearms/Security/Second Hand Dealers – WA Police are the Licensing Authority**
- **Liquor/Gaming/Racing/Casino/Combat Sports – Enforcement and Probity role**



LICENSING ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Liquor Operations

Research has demonstrated that enforcement of policies limiting service to underage persons and intoxicated patrons reduces alcohol-related problems and improves public safety.

- **Problematic Licensed Premises – Conditions on Licence (eg. Security/crowd controllers),**
- **Regular enforcement – firm but fair (eg. Infringements) significant fines imposed**
- **Event Management – Support and education (eg. Diggers and Dealers, Kalgoorlie Race Round, GME, Revolution Tour, Speedway and Schoolies week)**



INDIGENOUS ALCOHOL ISSUES

Alcohol interventions and enforcement to support indigenous community safety:

- partnership DRGL, DAO, DIA and others to address restrictions on supply of alcohol
- Dry Community provisions - **Wangkatjunka**
- Sly Grog Line (**Crimestoppers**)
- Enforcement
- Partnerships
- Positive results at Fitzroy Crossing



RECENT LED ACTIVITY

- LED recently targeted licensed premises in Regional WA and the metropolitan area.
- 73 infringements were issued for breaches of the Liquor Control Act = Fines totalling \$62,400.00
- A further 22 infringements were issued for street drinking to patrons associated with these premises.
- 41 crowd controllers were drug tested with 13 positive tests



Legislation (Liquor Control Act)

- **119 Street, park, reserve drinking: \$200.00 infringe.**
- **115(5) Refuse to leave licensed premises: \$200.00 infringe.**
- **115(6) Refuse to leave area (footpaths): \$200.00 infringe.**
- **121(4) Juvenile on licensed premises: \$200.00 Juvenile**
- **\$400.00 Employee**
- **\$1000.00 Lic/mger**
- **110 Offences relating to licensed premises:\$200.00 Other**
- **(contravene act or condition of licence) \$400.00 Employee**
- **\$1000.00 Lic/mger**
- **114 Closure of licensed premises by Police**



Legislation (CIA/Criminal Code)

Criminal Investigation Act (CIA)

- **27 CIA: Move on notice (suspects and others to move on).**

Criminal Code

- **74A: Disorderly conduct: \$6,000 fine**
- **172: Refuse, obstruct or hinder: 18 months imp and \$18,000 fine**
- **445: Damage: 12 months imp and \$12,00 fine**
- **313: Assault: 18 months imp and \$18,000 fine**
- **318: Assault Public Officer: 3 years imp and \$36,000 fine**



Goldfields-Esperance initiatives

- **Kalgoorlie-Boulder Liquor Accord.**
- **Voluntary lock-in (out) and early closure policies.**
- **Operation “Joust” to target anti-social behaviour in Hannan Street.**
- **Operation “Midrealm” to target Sly Grogging in remote aboriginal communities (Federally funded).**
- **Compliance checks of licensed premises.**
- **Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) training**
- **Review of Occasional and ETP liquor application, interventions and objections of liquor licenses and probity reports on approved managers.**



Keeping one step ahead

- **Often it is a case of trial and error to achieve the best results. Whilst some strategies work in one area they may not work in another.**
- **Sometimes not all strategies work. Whilst we, as a agency, try to stay ahead of changes in legislation there is always someone trying to test the boundaries and the intent of the legislation.**
- **For example someone recently suggested that there should be a drink limit at certain events. It didn't take long for the community to find a way around this suggestion.**



Bigger cups





LICENSING ENFORCEMENT

Licensing Enforcement Division will continue to take a hard line on those who do not comply with the Liquor Control Act.

Questions?

- **Contact details**
**Goldfields-Esperance Alcohol and Drug
Advisory Unit: 90219774**