

Liquor Act 1992

Statement of Regulatory Intent

Distance criteria and record keeping requirements for visitors and guests to community clubs

Summary

This statement of regulatory intent relates to the requirement to keep records about guests of members and visitors to a club which holds a community club licence, and the requirement that liquor not be sold to Queensland resident visitors unless they reside at least 15 kilometres from the club.

A trial was held allowing for the voluntary relaxation of community club licence visitation requirements.

It is intended that the stated requirements will not be enforced during the period to 30 June 2024 to allow for consultation and any necessary regulatory changes following the completion of the trial.

Preamble

In 2020, as part of the economic recovery plan to support jobs and local communities, the Queensland Government committed to review community club visitor requirements under the *Liquor Act 1992* (Liquor Act).

This commitment involved a two-year trial where the recording of information about guests of members and visitors to clubs is not considered necessary, and clubs can sell liquor to visitors who reside as close as zero kilometres from the club.

From 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2023 a trial was held allowing for the voluntary relaxation of community club licence requirements relating to visitor entry. The outcomes of the trial are under consideration and will inform Government consideration of whether the arrangements should be made permanent.

Regulatory intent and associated reasons

This statement of regulatory intent supersedes the 28 August 2023 statement *Distance criteria and record keeping requirements for visitors and guests to community clubs*.

Under the Liquor Act, community club licensees can sell liquor on the licensed premises, for consumption on or off the premises, to a range of persons including members, guests of members and visitors.

Sign in requirements under section 79(1)(d) and (e) of the Liquor Act place an obligation on community clubs to keep a register at the premises containing information about guests of members and visitors to club premises. This register is required to be available for inspection at any time.

For a Queensland resident to be considered a visitor under section 77(1)(a)(v) of the Liquor Act and therefore be eligible to be sold liquor, they must reside at least 15 kilometres from the club's premises.

The requirements that community club liquor licensees record information for visitors and guests of members and only sell liquor to Queensland resident visitors if they reside at least 15 kilometres from the club, will not be enforced until 30 June 2024 (unless alternative arrangements are put in place prior to this date).

These relaxations are necessary for the trial evaluation period and will inform consideration by Government of whether there should be ongoing changes to these arrangements through amendments to the Liquor Act.

The relaxations are specific and do not in any way alter or impinge on other enforcement policies related to the obligations of licensees under the Liquor Act.

Victoria Thomson

Commissioner for Liquor and Gaming

19 December 2023