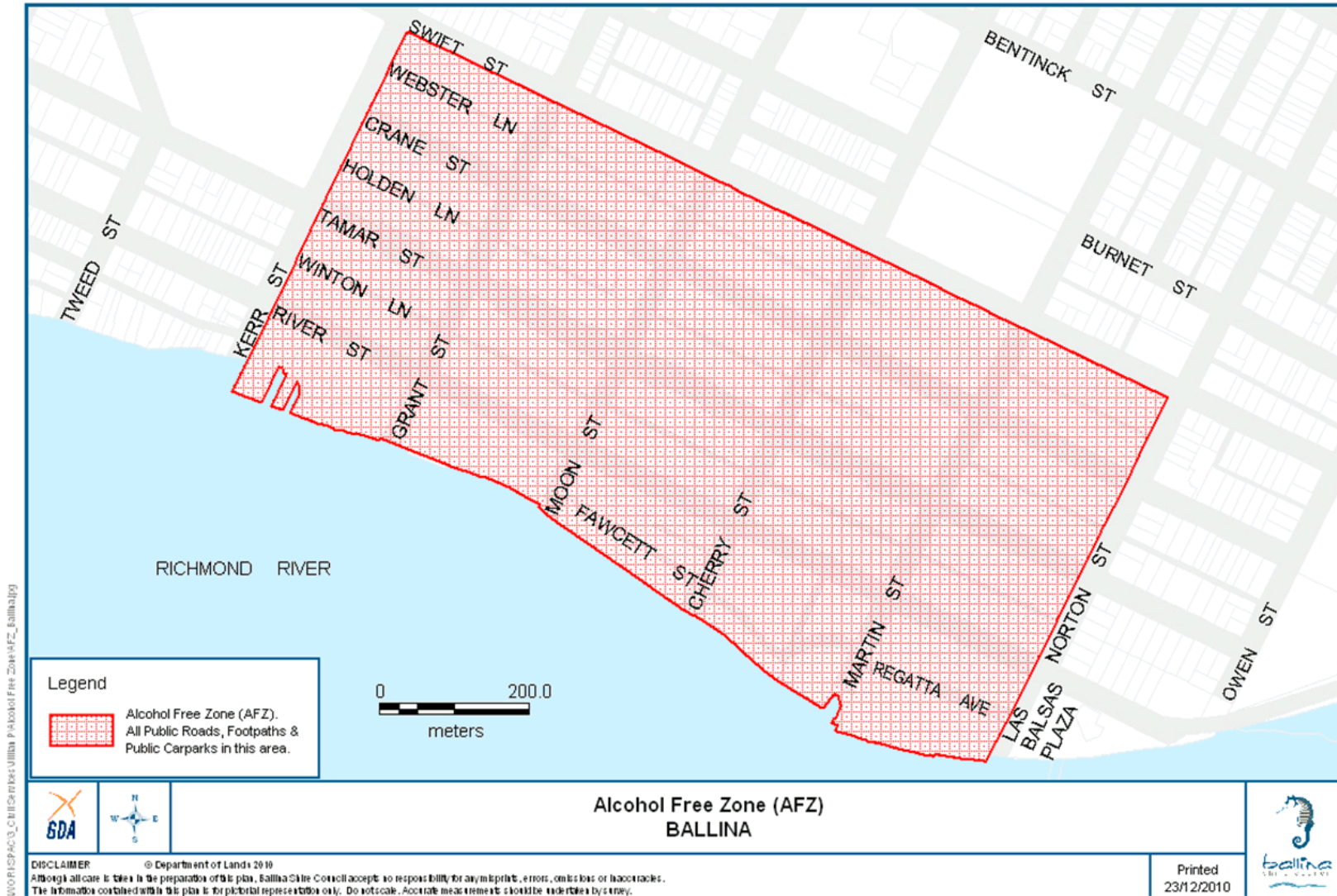
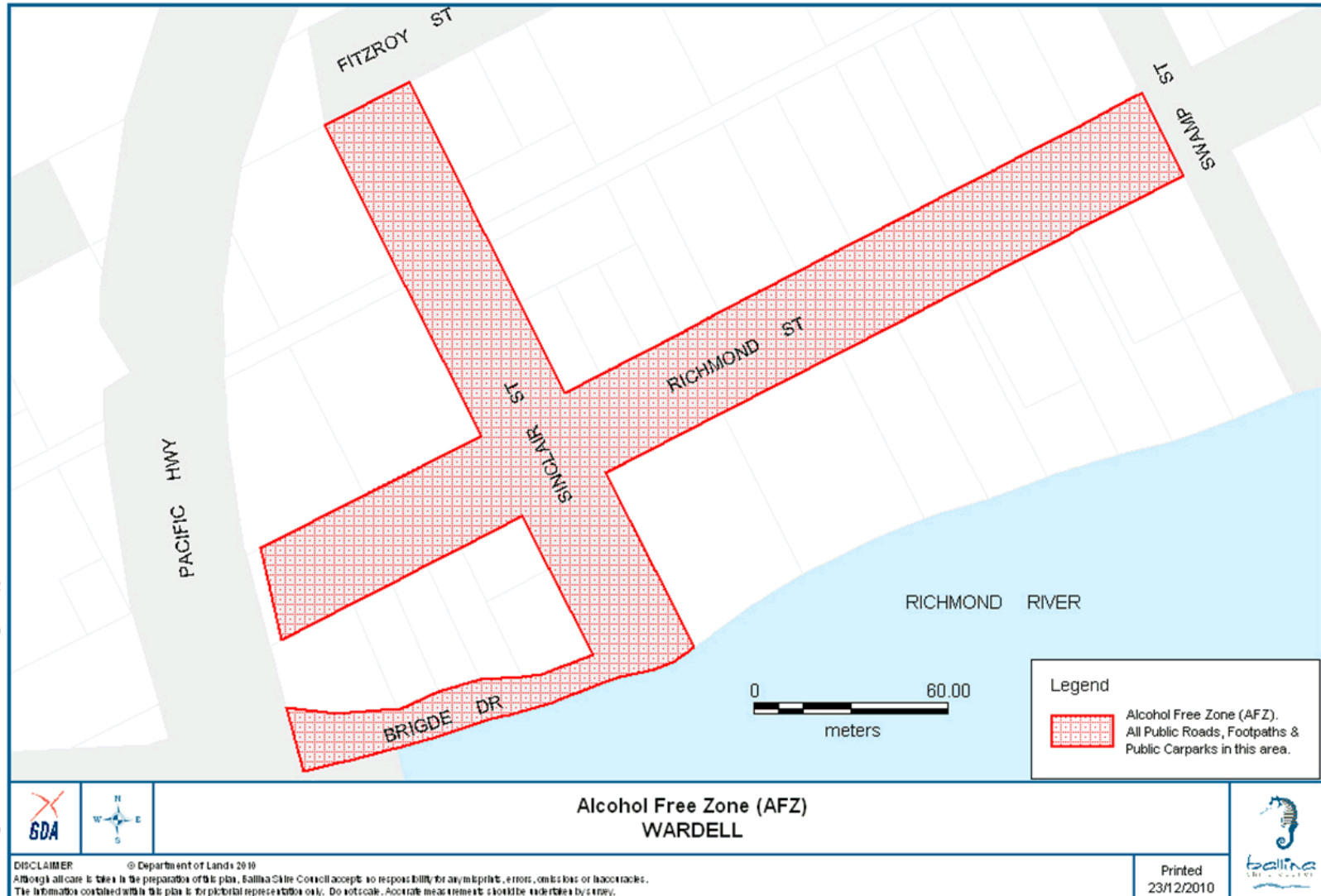
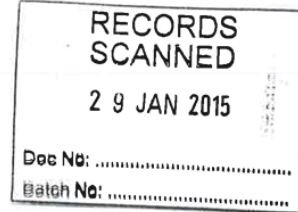


11.3 Alcohol Free Zones - Ballina and Wardell.DOC



11.3 Alcohol Free Zones - Ballina and Wardell.DOC





Our ref: LS/14/001

Cheyne Willebrands
Manager Open Spaces & Resource Recovery
Ballina Shire Council
PO Box 450
BALLINA NSW 2478

Dear Cheyne,

Establishment of Alcohol Free Zones – Ballina & Wardell

I refer to your letter to the Anti-Discrimination Board of New South Wales (the Board) dated 18 December 2014, regarding the proposed establishment of the alcohol free zones within the Ballina Shire Council Local Government Area.

I note that you have contacted Local Police and the Local Aboriginal Land Council, and that you have published the proposed zones in local media, on the Council's website and have written to relevant interested parties as required by the Ministerial Guidelines on the Establishment of Alcohol-Free Zones (the **Guidelines**).

Providing the Council follows the Guidelines in all respects, particularly in relation to consultation with local Aboriginal or ethnic groups, the Board has no objection to the proposal to establish alcohol-free zones in the Ballina Shire Council Government Area.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Margaret Fahy'.

Margaret Fahy
Legal Officer

Date: 27 JAN 2015

PO Box A2122, Sydney South NSW 1235 | Level 4, 175 Castlereagh Street, Sydney NSW 2000
Phone (02) 9268 5555 | Fax (02) 9268 5500 | TTY (02) 9268 5522 | Freecall 1800 670 812 | Enquiries (02) 9268 5544
www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/adb



NSW POLICE

**Richmond Local Area Command
Crime Management Unit
LICENSING OFFICE**

5 Zadoc St
Lismore NSW 2480
Tel: (02) 6626 0624 E/N 65624
Fax: (02) 6626 0566 E/N 6556
Email: thor1sim@police.nsw.gov.au

Wednesday, 22 July 2015

General Manager
Ballina Shire Council,
40 Cherry St
BALLINA, NSW, 2478

New South Wales Police Force submission for the reinstatement of Alcohol free Zones in Ballina and Wardell townships.

The irresponsible consumption of alcohol on roads, footpaths and in car parks can compromise their use by community members and increase the risk of alcohol related crime and antisocial behaviour in those areas including acts of violence and offensive conduct.

Alcohol Free Zones assist the New South Wales Police Force in being able to reduce the impact of alcohol related harm within the community

BALLINA

Information obtained from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research indicated that the rate of alcohol related disorderly conduct incidents in the suburb of Ballina over the past 6 years has been consistently higher than that for the rate of New South Wales. In the 12 month period between April 2014 and March 2015 70.4% of all alcohol related disorderly conduct incidents occurred on Road/Street/Footpath, Recreation or Other Outdoor/Public Place.

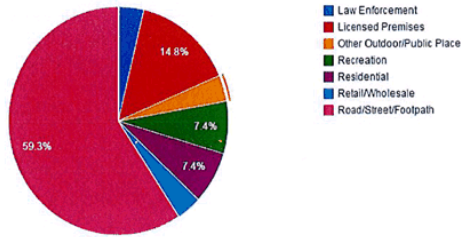
NSW Crime Statistics for Apr 2009 to Mar 2015: Incidents of Alcohol Related Disorderly conduct

Suburb	Trend: 6 year	Year to Mar 2010		Year to Mar 2011		Year to Mar 2012		Year to Mar 2013		Year to Mar 2014		Year to Mar 2015	
		Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
New South Wales	down 10.9% per year	11899	168.1	11710	163.5	10151	140.2	9072	124.3	8300	113.7	6896	94.5
BALLINA	stable	34	417.5	41	499.2	22	268.2	23	280.1	20	243.6	27	328.9

Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries
Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
Glossary

11.3 Alcohol Free Zones - Ballina and Wardell.DOC

Incidents of Alcohol Related Disorderly conduct in Ballina suburb, Apr 2014 to Mar 2015 by Premises



Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
[Glossary](#)

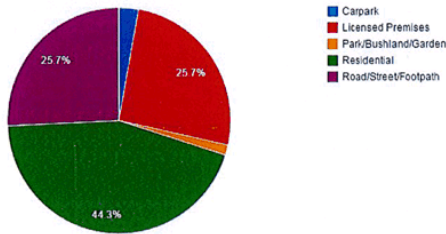
In addition the rate of alcohol related assaults in the suburb of Ballina over the past 6 years has been consistently higher than that for the rate of New South Wales. In the 12 month period between April 2014 and March 2015 that 30% of all alcohol related assaults occurred on Road/Street/Footpath, Carpark or Park/Bushland/Garden.

NSW Crime Statistics for Apr 2009 to Mar 2015: Incidents of Alcohol Related Assault

Suburb	Trend: 6 year	Year to Mar 2010		Year to Mar 2011		Year to Mar 2012		Year to Mar 2013		Year to Mar 2014		Year to Mar 2015	
		Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
New South Wales	down 7.4% per year	31208	442.2	28806	402.1	28525	386.4	26657	351.4	24609	337.1	21995	301.3
BALLINA	down 6.1% per year	95	1165.7	80	973.9	76	926.5	63	767.4	74	901.3	70	852.6

Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries
 Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
[Glossary](#)

Incidents of Alcohol Related Assault in Ballina suburb, Apr 2014 to Mar 2015 by Premises



Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
[Glossary](#)

11.3 Alcohol Free Zones - Ballina and Wardell.DOC

WARDELL

Police have previously received a number of reports of assaults and anti social behaviour in the vicinity of the licensed premises in Wardell. It was reported that patrons purchased alcohol in single serves and moving out of the hotel and surrounds and consuming these drinks. Whilst this is not an offence by either the hotel management or the patron it is not in the spirit of the hotel license to sell take away bar service style drinks to be consumed off the premises in the surrounding streets. The take away provisions of the hotel license are intended for patrons to purchase sealed beverages to be taken off the premises and consumed at a later time and place.

On 25th June 2015 a public order incident occurred on Richmond St, WARDELL which involved approximately 100 people. Attending Police observed numerous intoxicated patrons drinking out of glasses, bottles and cans on the street outside the hotel and police had difficulty moving people on from the location. The crowd became aggressive towards police and police observed two violent confrontations. Police were unable to identify those involved due to the behavior and hostility of the crowd.

CRIME PREVENTION

Alcohol Free Zones have a significant influence on the ability of police in being able to reduce alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour in the Ballina Shire.

An example in the Ballina Shire Council where Alcohol Free Zones has had a dramatic decrease in anti-social behaviour and crime can be shown in Lennox Head.

This can be shown with the following table comparing the summer period prior to the Alcohol Free Zones for Lennox Head, with the same period of 2011/2012. The statistics show that there has been a decrease of incidents between 67% to 79% in the major incident categories.

Incidents - Lennox Head			
Type	Summer		Difference
	2008/2009	2011/2012	
ASSAULT	15	7	68%
MALICIOUS DAMAGE	18	6	75%
POWERS - MOVE ON	12	4	75%
STEALING	42	21	67%
STREET OFFENCE	15	4	79%
TOTAL	102	42	71%

11.3 Alcohol Free Zones - Ballina and Wardell.DOC

GENERAL

The creation of Alcohol Free Zones in the Ballina Shire has complemented the current partnership between the New South Wales Police Force and the Ballina Shire Council in crime reduction and in making the Ballina Shire community a safer place for its residents and visitors alike.

The re-implementation of an Alcohol Free Zone in the public streets and footpaths of the Ballina and Wardell will assist police in controlling anti social behaviour and alcohol related crime in those areas as well as adding to public amenity of the towns.

RECOMMENDATION

Alcohol Free Zones in the townships of Ballina and Wardell be re-established for the maximum period of three years.



Simon Lee THORPE
Acting Sergeant
Richmond Licensing Unit