



NSW POLICE

Richmond Local Area Command Crime Management Unit LICENSING OFFICE

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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 Lennox Head and Alstonville 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.

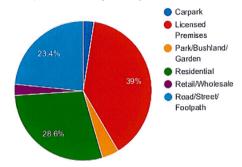
Alcohol Free Zones assist the New South Wales Police Force in being able to reduce the impact of alcohol related harm within the community

BALLINA LGA

	To Sep 2015	Year to !	Sep 2010	Year to	Sep 2011	Year to	Sep 2012	Year to S	Sep 2013	Year to	Sep 2014	Year to	Sep 2015
LGA	Trend: 6 year	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate ¢	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
New South Wales	down 10% per year	17425	244.8	15826	219.9	14272	196.1	13493	184.8	12113	165.9	10533	144.3
BALLINA	down 8.6% per year	119	293.9	92	226.0	83	202.9	92	224.4	66	161.0	77	187.8

Information from the New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research stated that the rate of alcohol related assaults in the Ballina LGA over the past 6 years has been consistently higher than that for the rate of New South Wales.

Incidents of Alcohol Related Assault (Nondomestic assault) in Ballina Local Government Area, Oct 2014 to Sep 2015 by Premises



In the 12 month period between October 2014 and September 2015 that 29.9% of all alcohol related assaults occurred on Road/Street/Footpath, Carpark or Park/Bushland/Garden.

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 antisocial 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									
Tuno	Sum	Difference							
Type	2008/2009	2011/2012	Dinorence						
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%						

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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 it 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 Lennox Head and Alstonville be re-established.

Simon Lee THORPE Acting Sergeant Richmond Licensing Unit