Dr Chris Burns
MINISTER FOR RACING, GAMING & LICENSING

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Government Continues to Tackle Alcohol Abuse

The Licensing Minister Chris Burns has rolled out the next stage of the Territory Government’s plan to combat alcohol abuse and anti-social behaviour in the Katherine region.

Dr Burns said a computer-based ID system was being installed in all public takeaway alcohol venues.

“Unacceptably high levels of drinking exist in the Katherine region. This has resulted in serious consequences for the community, including assaults, domestic violence and anti-social behaviour.

“Katherine has already taken the important step of becoming “dry”, while the Territory Government has implemented a range of measures including private dry areas legislation and restrictions on the supply and quantity of alcohol available.

“The electronic ID system will strengthen those initiatives.”

Dr Burns said 13 public takeaway alcohol venues in Katherine, Mataranka, Pine Creek and Victoria River will be required to use the electronic ID technology when selling any alcohol.

“This system will enable better enforcement of supply restrictions in the town, including the limit of one two-litre cask or one bottle of fortified wine per person per day,” he said.

“It will also identify those with court-imposed liquor restrictions against them.

“Members of the community who behave in violent or anti-social ways when affected by alcohol will be prohibited from purchasing alcohol.

“These are serious measures that are designed to substantially reduce alcohol-related harm.”

The system can recognise 19 forms of local and national photo ID and more than 150 international forms of identification.

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