CLP gets it wrong on liquor licensing

Terry Mills comments regarding Territory liquor licensing inspectors are incorrect.

The Australian Government's Budget confirmed ongoing funding for liquor inspectors funded as an early initiative of the Federal Government Intervention to strengthen regional capacity to address alcohol-related harm.

These officers work within the NT Government's Licensing Division and within the NT Liquor Act.

Terry Mills comments show he has no understanding of Federal Financial Arrangements that regularly fund additional positions within State Government programs or the Liquor Act.

He is simply wrong when he says inspectors have the power to remove licences from pub operators.

The Licensing Commission is the only authority that can remove a liquor license if a licensee breaks the law.

Instead of creating scuttlebutt Terry Mills should support the Banned Drinker Register which had turned more than 2,300 problem drinkers off-tap and enforced those bans on more than 12,000 attempted purchases.

Police say the Banned Drinker Register is the best tool they have to fight alcohol crime and with around 70 per cent of all alcohol consumed in the Territory done off-licence, the BDR is targeting problem drinkers causing themselves and others harm.

If the CLP had its way, those 2,300 problem drinkers would be freely buying alcohol

In Darwin, alcohol related assaults have dropped 7.4%, 13.5% in Palmerston and 7.6% in Katherine, 4.4% in Alice Springs and 2.1% Territory-wide. Alcohol-related assaults not involving domestic violence dropped by 9.5% over the same period Territory wide.

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