Chief Minister Adam Giles today received a draft of the new Tennant Creek Alcohol Management Plan containing strong support for the continuation of the voluntary sale restrictions and Temporary Beat Locations.

“Tennant Creek has come ahead in leaps and bounds since the introduction of a range of alcohol management measures in the town at the start of the year,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“A combination of voluntary grog restrictions and tough new measures by Police targeting problem drinkers has made Tennant Creek a safer place to live.”

House break-ins have also dropped 60 per cent over the year to September - the lowest 12 month period since the current records began.

Over the first nine months of this year, alcohol-related assaults halved compared to the same time last year.

“That’s half as many women and children being harmed by alcohol-fuelled violence,” Mr Giles said.

“Temporary Beat Locations have been crucial to this result with officers stationed outside bottleshops stopping people who intend to drink their takeaway grog in dry areas.

“This is an approach we are rolling out intensively across the Territory, including a new six month operation in Katherine starting tomorrow.

“The Tennant Creek results are impressive and local Police and the community deserve to be congratulated for tackling this issue head-on.”

Mr Giles attended a meeting of the Tennant Creek Alcohol reference Group today and received a draft copy of the town’s AMP for his feedback.

The draft is based on information gathered through more than 150 hours of stakeholder and community consultation between May and August this year. It also takes into account recent alcohol data.
The current restrictions limit takeaway purchases to either one cask of wine or two bottles of wine or two bottles of spirits per person per day.

“I am pleased to hear that the consultation showed strong community support for the continuation of these very effective measures, in combination with proactive policing,” Mr Giles said.

“These Alcohol Management Plans are all about local communities finding local solutions that work best in their local environment. It’s great to see such a commitment by the community to dealing with this issue in the long term.

“I know the Alcohol Reference Group is passionate about respecting culture and providing young people with more opportunity. It’s very positive that the AMP includes initiatives to support and mentor young people.”

The final Alcohol Management Plan will be presented to Government for endorsement next year.

**Media Contact: Danielle Parry 0413 081 801**