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Problem Drinkers Back on Tap

Since the CLP Government scrapped the Banned Drinker Register (BDR), problem drinkers have unrestricted access to alcohol and our policing hot spots have gotten hotter.

Shadow Minister for Alcohol Policy, Michael Gunner, said he is getting strong feedback from the community that anti-social behaviour is on the increase since the Banned Drinker Register was scrapped against the advice of Police.

“Chief Minister Terry Mills promised to immediately deal with drunks as part of his 100 day plan, and instead they are on the increase,” Mr Gunner said.

“The first page of the CLP Government 100 Day Plan states ‘We will immediately: Remove drunks from our streets’.

“It fails the common sense test for the CLP to scrap the Banned Drinker Register before even starting the process to put their own plans in place.

“It seems the only people the CLP are rewarding post election are the 2500 problem drinkers we had banned from buying takeaway alcohol.

“The CLP have broken faith with their own action plan - instead of removing drunks from the streets they have given 2500 problem drinkers permission to drink.

“I maintain regular contact with people who live next to hot spots, who go for their morning walk through hot spots – the feedback is clear that there has been a marked increase in problem drinkers since the Banned Drinker Register was scrapped.

“As a local I have seen it myself – our hot spots are getting hotter.

“The experts have said that the Banned Drinker Register was the best tool to address problem drinking, and the CLP Government has ignored this advice.

“The consequences of the decision to scrap the banned drinker register is more problem drinkers in our parks and on our streets and the Police have less powers to deal with the problem ” Mr Gunner said.

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