

Reference number CR1893

Contact name

Anne Malloch

Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

Organisation name

City of Melbourne

Type of organisation

Government body

Is your submission confidential?

No

Submission type

Have Your Say

Comment

The City of Melbourne is concerned that the recommendations made in the Draft Report will greatly increase the availability of alcohol in this municipality and lead to significant increases in alcohol related harms in our city.

Over the last five years Victorian councils have collaborated with State Government to develop mechanisms to manage the significant impacts of alcohol misuse and related harms across Victoria. This has included working closely with community, industry and Victoria Police to carefully consider liquor outlet density, trading hours and the impact of these on communities.

Any changes to liquor retailing must consider the broader social outcomes as alcohol is no ordinary commodity. Alcohol is a drug. As such, it requires special laws and restrictions about where it can be sold, when it can be sold and who can consume it. Current regulations reflect the harms that alcohol can cause.. The economic principles that apply to other products are not applicable to the sale and distribution of alcohol. We request that these points be given careful consideration.