



Inquiry into the Liquor Amendment Bill 2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

Addressed to: Attorney-General

In relation to: Community Harm Reduction Levy

Hearing: 5 December 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p67

Transcript provided: 11/12/2025

Answer Due: 18/12/2025

MR RATTENBURY: Thank you. I want to ask, in the submission from the Australian Multicultural Action Network they proposed a community harm reduction fund be established to, in their view, particularly support multicultural communities who face higher risks of harm due to social isolation and financial stress, and that be financed through a modest levy on same day alcohol delivery licenses. My first question is, the ACT can do that? Yes. And then secondly, has the government considered that as a policy option as a way of helping to fund services that respond to alcohol harm?

Ms Cheyne: This is dovetailing a bit into the public health space and Minister Stephen-Smith. We may well have funds already available that achieve the same outcome. But how about I take that on notice, if that is all right, Mr Rattenbury, and I will consult.

MR RATTENBURY: Sure, no problem. Thanks.

MS TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Government does not currently have a community alcohol harm reduction fund that is funded by levies on liquor licences. Instead, the ACT Government provides funding for community organisations through a range of existing programs including:

- the Healthy Canberra Grants program to deliver community-based activities that create supportive environments to improve the health of Canberrans, with a focus on preventing chronic disease, and
- the Multicultural Inclusion Grants program for projects and events in the ACT that celebrate cultural diversity and social cohesion.

Healthy Canberra Grants supplements a broader program of work to reduce alcohol-related harm that is informed by strategies including the *Healthy Canberra: ACT Preventive Health Plan 2020-2025* and *ACT Drug Strategy Action Plan 2022–2026*.

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Multicultural Inclusion grants are for organisations to celebrate cultural days and events, and multicultural community programs. The cultural celebration or community program can focus on a wide range of areas, including relevantly to:

- support community inclusion and social connection by providing access to programs and services in a culturally appropriate way,
- provide accessible services and programs for people from multicultural communities
- support an equitable, harmonious, progressive and unified community across the ACT, and
- support and build community connection and resilience.

Grants of up to \$3,000 are available for a cultural celebration and up to \$6,000 for a community program.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature:



By the Attorney-General, Ms Tara Cheyne MLA

Date:

21/12/25