

Liquor & Gaming NSW

Liquor Accords Strategy

2023-2025

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Introduction

This strategy details the objectives and priorities for the liquor accords program for 2023-2025. It has been informed by stakeholder feedback from across the accord network and by an intensive desktop review of past engagements and program approaches.

Accord members have told us what additional support they need to be independent, strong and effective in their local areas. Based on this feedback, the 2023-2025 Liquor Accord strategy will focus on an enhanced intelligence led and risk-based engagement approach. We will contribute to building the capability of individual accords to improve accord governance and performance. In addition, we will provide focused support to accords to develop and implement initiatives that are effective in addressing local issues and provide greater opportunities to leverage impactful initiatives across the liquor accord network.

This strategy plays a key role in the delivery of Hospitality and Racing's vision, mission, and strategic priorities, particularly:

- embrace technology
- capacity building
- improve engagement
- enhance evidence and data
- future focus.



Accords snapshot

140+

There are currently more than 140 liquor accords operating in NSW with varying levels of engagement and activity.



72%

of liquor accords are in regional NSW.



50+

An average liquor accord has 50 plus members*, with membership comprising mostly of licensees, Police, and local and state government representatives.



In 2022, we conducted our annual Liquor Accord survey. We found:

Top 3 reasons members join an accord:



build strong relationships with Police and Council



proactive approach and participation in the industry



keep up to date with local issues

Top 3 ways members believe their accord could be improved:



better information from key stakeholders such as government and industry associations



more relevant meeting content for all licence types



more information on trends and issues in local areas

Our 2022 Liquor Accord survey respondents overwhelmingly agreed that their liquor accord has increased awareness of alcohol related issues (83%) and reduced alcohol related harm (75%) in their communities

74%

said they were very or somewhat interested in receiving information about minimising gambling related harm through liquor accords

73%

said they want information relating to gambling policy updates

93%

were somewhat/very interested in connecting with other Liquor Accords and relevant stakeholders through an online platform

98%

were very/somewhat interested in receiving updates from L&GNSW through an online platform

What are liquor accords and what do they do?

Liquor accords are partnerships among licensed venues, community members, local businesses, local councils, police, government departments and other community groups.

Liquor accords aim to reduce alcohol-related violence, antisocial behaviour, and other alcohol related harm in their local communities. In NSW, there are over 140 liquor accords in operation, with varied levels of commitment and engagement.

Liquor accords are enabled under Part 8, section 131-136 of the *Liquor Act 2007* (the Act) which specifies the definition, eligible parties, how to establish an accord, terms or strategies liquor accords can introduce, approval of a liquor accord and requirements for some licensees to contribute to the costs of liquor accords. Under the Act, liquor accords are intended to function in a voluntary manner, however there are cases where it is a condition on a liquor licence to be a member of a liquor accord.

Liquor accords adopt a constitution that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the executive committee and members and can agree to terms and strategies to address local alcohol related issues. The strategies aim to prevent alcohol related issues before they become ongoing problems within the community.

Liquor accord members work together to develop effective harm minimisation strategies based on trends affecting their local community. The success of each accord varies, based on the level of commitment by members, stakeholders, and local police. Many liquor accords have fees based on their membership structure which allows them to fund strategies and campaigns.



Our objective

To build and support liquor accords to enable them to be effective in eliminating or reducing alcohol related violence, antisocial behaviour and other alcohol related harm.

We do this by enabling and empowering Accords to deliver innovative and impactful strategies that address local issues and promote industry best practice.



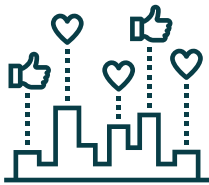
Our strategic goals and actions

To achieve our vision and mission, we have set the following strategic goals/priorities and actions:



Build the capacity of liquor accords

- Implement needs-based engagement and communication activities with accords
 - Create an online liquor accord map to help licensees and the community contact and join their local liquor accord
 - Work with Licensing to engage with new liquor licence holders, providing an introduction kit at the time their licence is granted and facilitate contact with their local liquor accord
 - Provide other tools and support to enable high-functioning liquor accords
-



Create opportunities for collaboration and sharing of impactful strategies across network

- Showcase accord initiatives and case studies across L&GNSW communication channels (website and targeted communication activities) and encourage members to collaborate and implement strategies in their accord
 - Continuation/expansion of a structured engagement program (eg. forums, topic specific engagement, targeted education sessions)
 - Research and develop a digital platform/portal for liquor accords and their members for information sharing, collaboration, and updates
 - Maintain the database of executive accord members and email quarterly newsletter
-



Support accords to develop and implement innovative initiatives

- In consultation with accords, create tailored and impactful resources and campaigns
- Implement a campaign toolkit of resources for liquor accords to effectively develop, implement, monitor and evaluate strategies and initiatives



Facilitate an intelligence led engagement approach

- Work closely with Police and peak industry associations, to exchange information and data, identify key focus areas, emerging trends and priority issues through continuation of the Liquor Accord Governance Advisory Committee
- Encourage and provide tools/avenues for accord executive to keep L&GNSW informed of their activities and composition through regular reporting and information sharing
- Identify emerging issues across the accord network and work with L&GNSW teams to provide relevant education/information across the accord network in response



Evaluation of the accord network

- Monitor accord performance and member satisfaction through structured engagement and informal feedback from key stakeholders at accord meetings, education sessions and events
- Conduct an annual survey of liquor accord members to determine the current state of the accord network, accord performance, key issues and member satisfaction

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