Far North District Licensing Committee Practice Note 2 Confidentiality of Objectors



Pursuant to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

Date: 1 May 2023

At times objectors seek to have their details kept confidential. An objector is a party once they attend and give evidence to the hearing of the application and can appear and be heard, and call, examine and cross-examine witnesses.

Section 203 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act) relates to the proceedings of the Committee. Section 203(5) permits the Committee to make an order prohibiting the publication of any report or description of any part of the proceedings. However, section 203(5) further provides that no such order may be made prohibiting the publication of the names and descriptions of the parties to the matter.

There is no ability for the Committee to suppress the names and descriptions of objectors (or any other parties).

If objectors seek to have their details kept confidential then the inspector needs to advise them that this is prohibited by the Act. They should be advised that either they will need to withdraw their objection, or their name, but not address of contact details, will be disclosed to the other parties to the matter.

- Marian

Ann Court

Chairperson – Far North DLC A

Far North District Licensing Committee

Murray Clearwater

Chairperson – Far North DLC B Far North District Licensing Committee Disclaimer: The information in this practice and guidance note is, according to Council's best efforts, accurate at the time of publication. Council makes every reasonable effort to keep it current and accurate. However, users of the practice notes are advised that:

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 guidelines and requirements;
- this document sets out general principles which may be used as guidance for matters relating to the interpretation and application of "the Act" and other statutory instruments; it is not intended to interfere with, or fetter, the professional views and opinions of council officers when they are performing any function or exercising any power under "the Act". Each consent application will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits;
- Users should take specific advice from qualified professional people before undertaking any action as a result of information obtained in this practice note;
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