

Mooofella Way (Our Way)

Alcohol Management Strategy 2021



● **Yarrabah**

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Yarrabah ●

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MAYORAL FOREWORD

Dear Residents of the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire,

On behalf of your Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council ("your Council") and Yarrabah Leaders Forum ("your YLF"), I wish to first and foremost acknowledge the Gungandji People, and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

I would like to acknowledge and thank you, the Yarrabah community, for sharing your voices and views by engaging in our Community Survey. Your voices and the health, safety and wellbeing of every community member, our Elders, and our youth are at the centre of the work we have completed to bring you this Community Safety Plan (Alcohol Management Strategy) 2021 ("CSP").

Our CSP is a first important strategic step in listening to your voices and views and those of our valued local community stakeholders regarding responsible management of alcohol in our Shire over coming years and setting a plan with clear actions to manage the risks *Moofella Way (Our Way)*. This CSP will be complemented by other CSPs covering many other community safety concerns which you have told us about in our Shire. For this reason, our CSPs will continue to evolve.

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of your YLF who together have provided insightful and evidence-based input, balanced with local knowledge. Our CSP provides a clear vision: that every Yarrabah resident feels, and is safe in, our homes, on our land and on our seas.

I am so proud to belong to Yarrabah and it is my hope that every community member can continue to share in this pride.

It gives me great pleasure to present to you our Community Safety Plan (Alcohol Management Strategy) 2021. We value and welcome your ongoing input.

Ross Andrews

Mayor

Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

OUR INTENT

This CSP has been developed by your Council in conjunction with your YLF and upon wider consultation with you (our community residents) and valued community stakeholders.

In this CSP, our aim is to identify community-led strategies for reducing alcohol misuse and related harm in the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire; including improving school attendance and reducing child protection issues. However, it has been identified by the Queensland Government that "it is not enough to attempt to address alcohol support on its own."¹ This is why the intent of our overarching CSP program is to identify Action Areas for us to focus on in our future Council and YLF strategic planning to improve your safety and your perceptions of safety in our Shire, across all areas.

This CSP has been funded by the Queensland Government as represented by DATSIP, and forms part of the Queensland Government's new approach to alcohol management in the 19 discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Queensland with Alcohol Management Plans ("AMP's"), applying its Local Thriving Communities strategy, consisting of a commitment to:

- co-designing community-specific safety plans that emphasise shared accountability;
- building community capacity to actively manage alcohol;
- continuing to implement targeted strategies to reduce illicit alcohol;; and
- ensuring effective, coordinated and well targeted service delivery through targeted investment.²

We thank the Queensland Government for its commitment to our community safety.

The Action Areas identified in this CSP, as suggested by you, will likely evolve into specific operational and capital actions of Council and members of your YLF (and other stakeholders) and will be incorporated formally within our strategic plans and budgets. These are described later in this CSP.

Individual respondent responses have been deidentified to protect your privacy. It is not intended that our CSP provide an exhaustive list of all our policy and operational/ capital responses to community safety concerns in the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire, however it will highlight focus areas raised by you. The Action Areas identified shall provide compelling support for consideration by us in our future Government funding submissions, policy deliberations as well as our future budget and strategic planning. However, we cannot provide any guarantee of specific action, which shall be subject to factors such as current community circumstances, priorities and need, legislative responsibility, availability of funding, availability of staff and resources, and technical feasibility etc.

¹ Letter Hon. Glen Elmes MP Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs to Committee Secretary - House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs - 22 May 2014.

² Ibid, p2



David Mundraby and family

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – ALCOHOL

Following our engagement with you (our valued residents of the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire) and our community stakeholders, consideration of available Government and independent reviews of the AMP and review of statistical harm and wellbeing indicators compiled by the Queensland Government over many years, it is clear that there is a need and desire for change in how alcohol is managed in our community.

Notwithstanding the widely-held view amongst our community of the discriminatory nature AMP's introduced into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Queensland in Yarrabah (2004) and in 18 other discrete communities (over a total of 15 Local Government Areas) (2002- 2009), there is no refuting the overwhelming evidence that the alcohol restrictions (wrapped-up as part of the AMP packages), have had positive impacts in reducing harm and improving wellbeing of residents in Yarrabah, particularly amongst our women and children. AMP's however, have not been without their negative impacts, which have included an increase in extortionately-priced and illicit alcohol availability within our community (both homebrew and commercially-sourced), a greater alcohol "binge drinking" culture due to urgency to consume illicit alcohol (particularly amongst our youth to age 35), the departure of community members from community to access legal alcohol elsewhere, and the increase in our criminalisation rate (fines and convictions) due to breach of carriage limits, to name just a few.

This CSP recognises a fundamental need for continued alcohol restriction in Yarrabah, both controlling the supply and demand of alcohol within our community, whilst enabling the necessary harm minimisation measures and supports. It commits to forging a community-led pathway out of discriminatory AMP's for Yarrabah, and into responsible self-management of alcohol; Moofella Way (Our Way).

It is recognised that a holistic and collaborative strategy is required to responsibly manage alcohol in our community, particularly given that it is but one cause and symptom of community harm as observed in other discrete Indigenous communities outside Yarrabah, amongst many other inter-related indicators such as:

- poor educational attainment;
- parenting skills and effective supervision of teenagers;
- low employment and economic participation rates;
- lack of and access to culturally capable health and rehabilitation services.³

We cannot do this all alone and need to partner with suitably experienced service providers and Government.

Our holistic strategy may take the form of (but is not limited to):

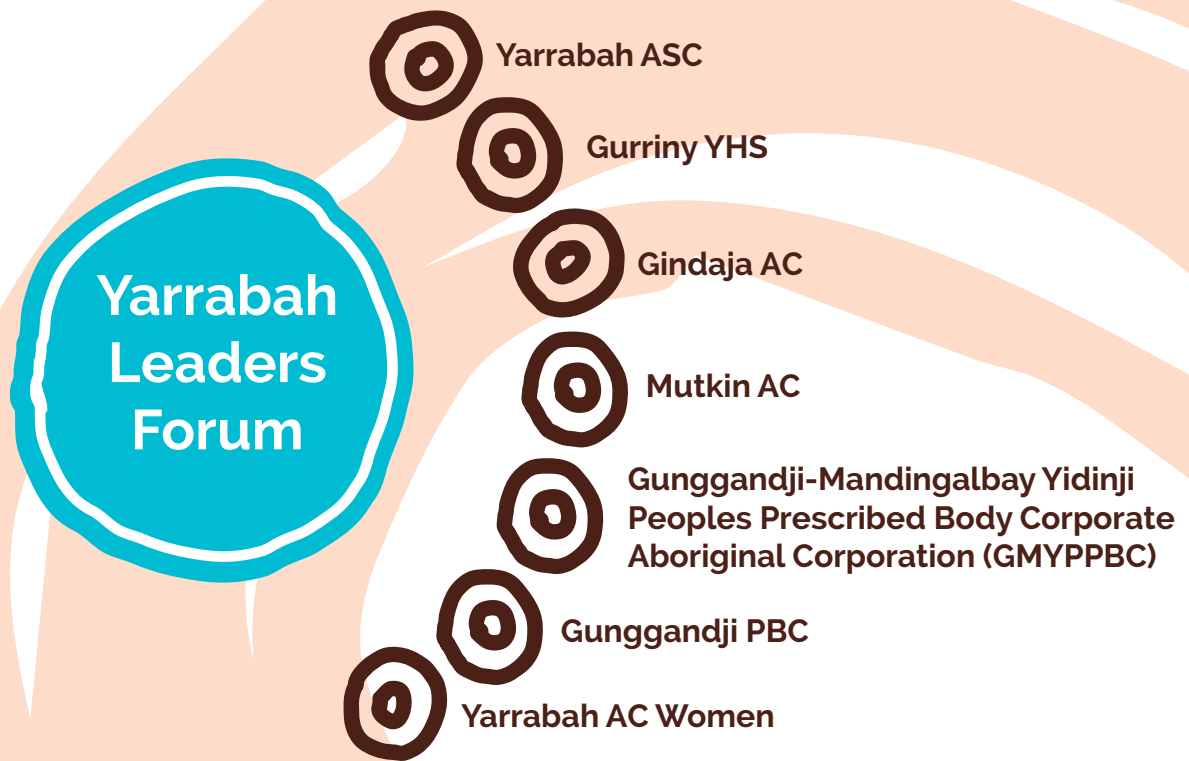
- (a) variations to carriage limits;
- (b) consideration of liquor permit/ licenses with a focus on family, recreation and wellbeing over profit (for licensed venues and one-off entertainment events), on a case by case basis;
- (c) assessing the adequacy and utilisation of targeted local supports to reduce alcohol dependence (community education and addiction support services (rehabilitation, treatment and diversion including mental health));
- (d) increasing the availability of community participation events; and
- (e) expanding the Community Safety Plan program to consider holistic community safety concerns for Yarrabah and feeding these findings into this CSP (Alcohol Management Strategy) 2021 to better to inform, strengthen and expand our recommendations.

³ House of Representative Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs Inquiry into the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities - Queensland Government submission, May 2014, p7

We know what is best for our community, and what will work, however we are committed to listening to our valued community stakeholders/ service providers and Government as to how they might complement Moofella Way (Our Way).

We realise that this will take time and careful planning and engagement with you, our community stakeholders/ service providers, and the Queensland Government, however as leaders of our community, we are confident that a community-led strategy is in the best interests of our community over the long-term.

Yarrabah Leaders Forum Members and configuration





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It commits to forging a community-led pathway out of discriminatory AMP's for Yarrabah, and into responsible self-management of alcohol; Moofella Way (Our Way).”

Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

OUR COMMUNITY

Our community of Yarrabah lies to the East of Cairns. By road it is placed about 60 kilometers from the Cairns CBD, however, it is only approx. 12 kilometers if measured in a straight line "as the Crow flies". It takes about 45 minutes to travel by car from the Cairns CBD to our community. Our coastline runs East from False Cape around Mission Bay, past Cape Grafton and Kings Point and then South to Palmer Point. The total coastline is more than 60 kilometers.

Geographically, our land area could generally be described as a long slender shape, bounded in the West by the Murray Prior Range and the coast on the East. It has an overall length of about thirty (30) kilometers and is about 2.5 kilometers wide in the South, but broadens out to almost eight (8) kilometers across the Northern part. It has an area of about 158.8 square kilometers. The township of Yarrabah is, for the most part, located adjacent to Mission Bay. Originally, European influence began in earnest with the establishment of an Anglican Mission on this same location on the 17th of June, 1892.

Over the years, subsequent State Government administrations forcibly relocated Aboriginal and some South Sea Islander Peoples from far and wide to our community. As a consequence, most local residents can claim both traditional and historical ties to the area.

The first Aboriginal Council was established in the mid 1960's, principally as an advisory body to the State Government. Your Council is now a Local Government under the Local Government Act 2009 (Qld).

Our community has an official population of 2,559 people at the 2016 census. Official health records suggest a population closer to 3,500 in 2020.

Alcohol Management

Since 6 February 2004, Yarrabah has been subject to an AMP with carriage limits imposed to restrict legal access to alcohol in our community. 18 other discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are also subject to AMP's (over 15 Local Government Areas). There are presently no licensed premises in the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire. AMP's were introduced into discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities with a view to reducing alcohol-related harm, particularly to women and children. It is noted that AMP's were imposed on our community, with little to no engagement with us on our proposed solutions. We consider AMP's to be discriminatory government policy. We will discuss the effectiveness of AMP's later in this CSP.

As at the time of writing this CSP, alcohol restrictions apply to the confines of the Yarrabah Shire Council Local Government Area and its foreshores, and impose the following carriage limits:

Alcohol	Carriage Limit
Beer (>4% COA) - light/ mid-strength	11.25L (1 carton of 30 cans)
Wine (other than fortified wine)	750ml (1 bottle)
Other (incl. Spirits etc.)	ZERO

OUR APPROACH

Our approach to development of this CSP comprised two (2) stages over the period 2019/2020:

1. Research

To assist in framing-up the problem (alcohol-related harm) confronting our community both past and present, as well as potential solutions, in preparing this CSP we have considered the following materials/resources:

- a. Queensland Government alcohol-related harm and wellbeing statistics;
- b. Government Alcohol Management reviews, including historical findings and recommendations, namely:
 - Queensland Government's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Task Force on Violence (1998)
 - Cape York Justice Study – Justice Tony Fitzgerald (2001)
 - Meeting Challenges, Making Choices (2002)
 - AMP initial implementation evaluation – Dept of Premier and Cabinet (2005)
 - Partnerships Queensland: Future Directions Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy in Queensland 2005-2010 (2005);
 - Alcohol Management Reform Program (2008) – recommending and legislating the closure of local Council-run community canteens.
- c. Independent Alcohol Management Studies, namely:
 - Clough, Alan R., et al. "Study Protocol- Alcohol Management Plans (AMPs) in remote indigenous communities in Queensland: their impacts on injury, violence, health and social indicators and their cost-effectiveness." *BMC public health* 14.1 (2014): 1-11..
 - Clough, Alan R., et al. "Alcohol control policies in Indigenous communities: a qualitative study of the perceptions of their effectiveness among service providers, stakeholders and community leaders in Queensland (Australia)." *International Journal of Drug Policy* 36 (2016): 67-75.
 - Bird, Katrina, Michelle S. Fitts, and Alan R. Clough. "Alcohol management plans in Indigenous communities in Queensland (Australia) may have unintended implications for the care of children." *Health & justice* 4.1 (2016): 1-7.
 - Robertson, Jan A., Michelle S. Fitts, and Alan R. Clough. "Unintended impacts of alcohol restrictions on alcohol and other drug use in indigenous communities in Queensland (Australia)." *International Journal of Drug Policy* 41 (2017): 34-40.
 - D'Abbs, Peter, and David MacLaren. "A Licensed Club in Yarrabah?: managing rewards, minimising risks." (2008).

2. Resident Engagement – Your Voice

Since commencement of our AMP in February 2004, our community has been engaged on numerous occasions to understand community views on the AMP and its effectiveness, both by Government and independent researchers. Most recently, in April 2020, a community resident survey was undertaken by your Council (in conjunction with DATSIP). To engage in the survey, respondents needed to be:

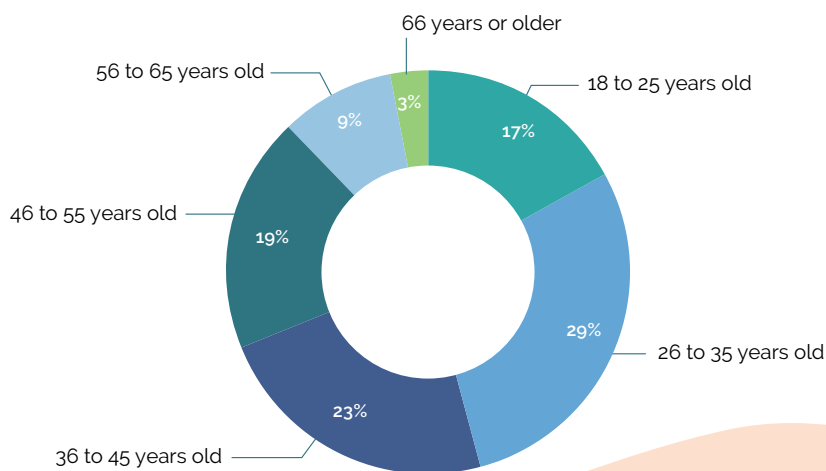
- aged 18 or older in 2020; and
- living in Yarrabah at the time of completing the survey.

Survey questions were developed in consultation with community stakeholders and focused primarily on alcohol management.

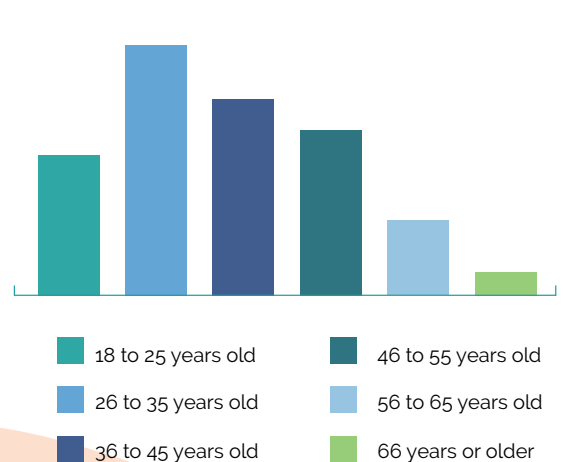
At the time of developing this report, it is known that population size of Yarrabah is better reflected by health records (as opposed to ABS data), which indicate there are 3,500 residents living in the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire. Based on this, with an accepted 5% margin of error and a desired confidence level of 95%, a required sample size of minimum 347 survey responses were targeted. A total of 396 responses were received. Survey responses were collected in person by Gindaja Treatment and Healing Centre staff and via an online survey, administered by DATSIP.

As shown in the below graphs, the greatest number of responses were received from respondents who were aged 26-35 years old (29%), followed by those aged 36-45 years (23%), and then those aged 46-55 years (19%).

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS BY AGE IN 2020



PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS BY AGE IN 2020



RESEARCH

(A) QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT STATISTICS

The Queensland Government currently uses six (6) key statistical indicators to monitor and report on alcohol-related harm and wellbeing, namely:

Primary indicators are considered direct indicators and supporting indicators are considered indirect indicators of alcohol-related harm. The following statistical snapshot is provided indicating statistical improvement/decline over the duration of the AMP regulation:

	Indicator	Community safety element
1	Reported offences against the person	Harm (primary Indicator)
2	Episodes of care for assault-related injuries	Harm (primary indicator)
3	Alcohol carriage restriction breaches	Demand (supporting indicator)
4	Child safety - Substantiated notifications of harm	Wellbeing (supporting indicator)
5	Child safety - Finalised child protection orders	Wellbeing (supporting indicator)
6	Student attendance	Wellbeing (supporting indicator)

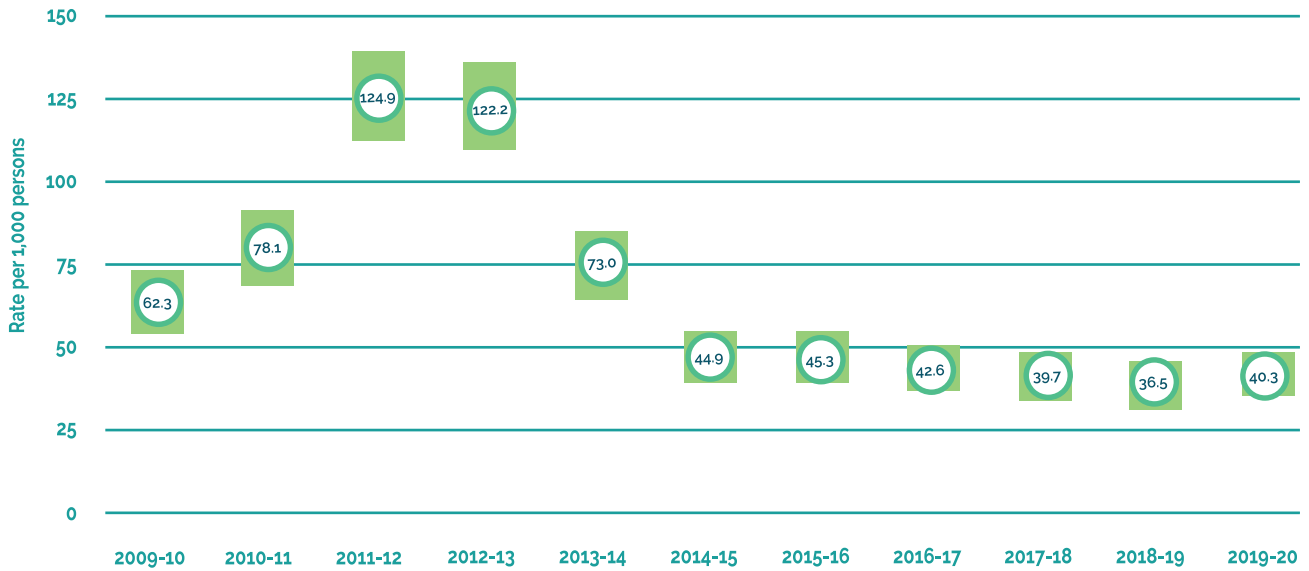
1. Reported Offences Against the Person

These offences refer to offences perpetrated against an individual person and include homicide, assault, sexual offences, robbery, stalking and kidnapping and abduction.

In 2019–20, 117 offences against the person were reported in Yarrabah (a rate of 40.3 per 1,000 persons compared with 7.4 per 1,000 people elsewhere in Queensland).

	Yarrabah	Queensland
	Rate	Rate
Offences against the person	40.3	7.4

Figure 14. Reported offences against the person



Trends include:

- Rates trended downward by 2% per year, on average, from 2000–01 to 2010–11.
- Rates did not significantly change from 2014–15 to 2019–20.

2. Episodes of Care for Assault-Related Injuries

Facilities within our community as of 1 July 2014 are no longer classified as hospitals. From 1 July 2014 until 30 June 2015, data provision from these facilities was not mandatory; however if episodes of care were supplied from these facilities, they were still retained in the Queensland Hospital Admitted Patient Data Collection (QHAPDC).

From 1 July 2015, collection of episodes of care from these facilities ceased entirely. Furthermore, data for several facilities in the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service (HHS) are known to be incomplete from 2010–11 to present. This does not include transfers and admissions of community residents to other facilities.

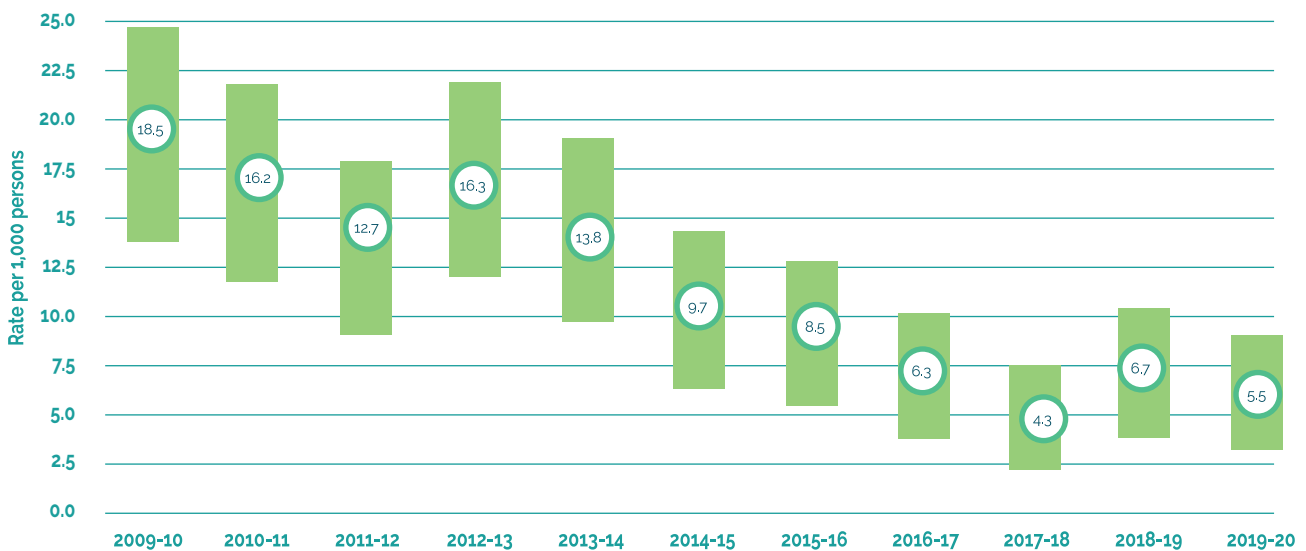
In 2019–20:

- 16 episodes of care for assault-related injuries were recorded for Yarrabah residents, compared with 19 in 2018–19.
- The episodes of care for assault-related injuries rate for Yarrabah residents (5.5 per 1,000 people) was significantly higher than the Queensland rate (1.3 per 1,000 people).

Table 12. Episode of care for assault-related injuries

Year	Yarrabah rate(3)	Queensland rate(3)
2018-19	6.7	1.3
2019-20	5.5	1.3
Change from previous period	No significant change	No significant change

Figure 13. Episodes of care for assault-related injuries



3. Alcohol Carriage Restriction Breaches

People convicted of breaching alcohol carriage restrictions have been counted in the location where they committed the offence. A single offender can be convicted of multiple charges. As such, the rate of charges is a measure of charges (not offenders).

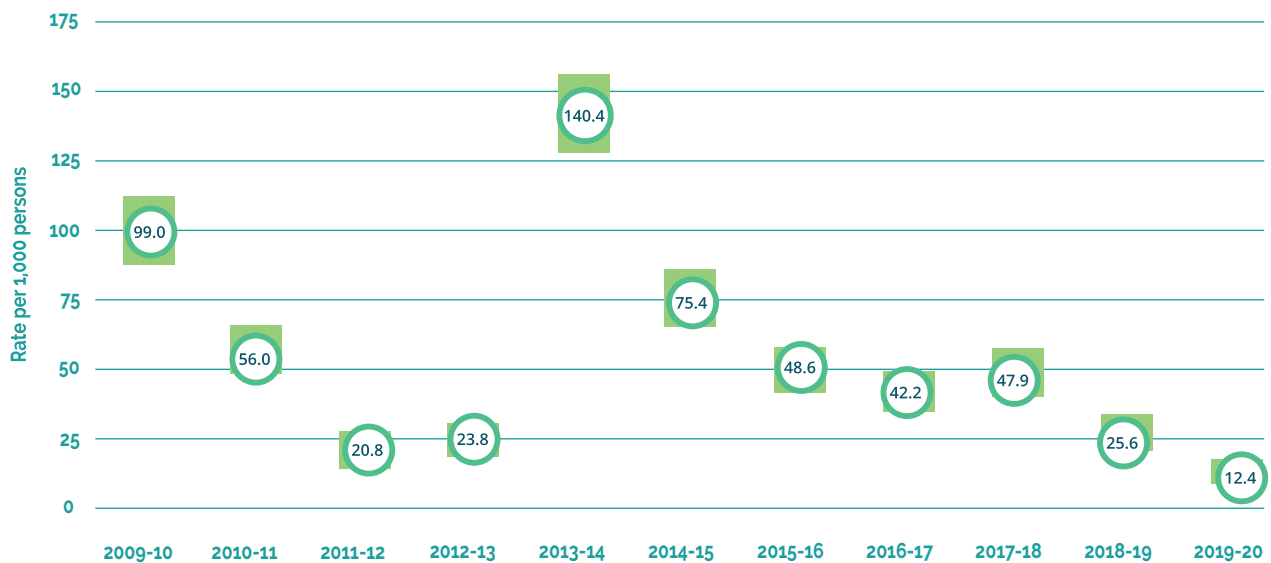
In 2019–20:

- The rate of charges resulting in a conviction for breach of alcohol carriage restrictions in Yarrabah was 12.4 per 1,000 persons. This was significantly lower than the rate reported for 2018–19 (25.6 per 1,000 persons).
- For 47.2% of people convicted, it was their first conviction for a breach of alcohol carriage restrictions.

Table 26. Breaches of Sections 168B and C, *Liquor Act 1992*, 2019-20

Yarrabah	
Charges resulting in a conviction (number)	36
People convicted (number)	36
People convicted of a breach for the first time (%)	47.2

Figure 23. Charges resulting in a conviction for breaches of alcohol carriage restrictions



4. Child Safety – Substantiated Notifications of Harm

Children subject to substantiated child protection notifications are all children who were subject to a notification during the relevant period, where the investigation resulted in a substantiated outcome and who were living in the relevant community at the time of notification.

In 2018–19, 26 children aged 0–17 years were subject to a substantiated notification of harm, compared with 13 in 2017–18.

Table 14. Unique children aged 0-17 years subject to a substantiated notification of harm

Year	Yarrabah rate(3)	Queensland rate(3)
2017-18	11.2	5.1
2018-19	22.2	5.2
Change from previous period	Significant increase	No significant change

(a) Rate per 1,000 persons aged 0-17 years

5. Child Safety – Finalised Child Protection Orders

Children admitted to child protection orders are all children who were admitted to a finalised child protection order during the relevant period and whose family residence was in Yarrabah at the time the order was made.

In 2018–19, less than 5 children aged 0–17 years were admitted to a finalised child protection order, compared with less than 5 in 2017–18.

6. Student Attendance

Yarrabah State School delivers education for years Prep to Year 10. It is noted that as at 2020, there were in approximately 200 students that reside in Yarrabah who attend schools other than Yarrabah State School, including boarding schools. The statistics below demonstrate attendance rates for the Yarrabah State School. The below tables show overall school attendance (averaged between primary and secondary school).

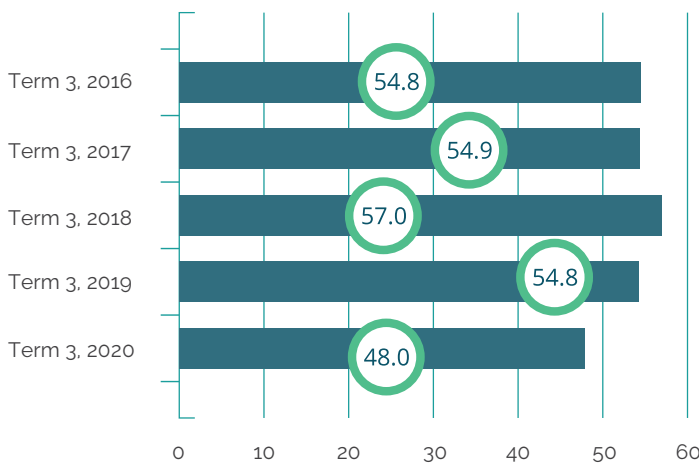
In Term 4, 2019:

- 326 primary school students were enrolled at Yarrabah State School. Their attendance rate was 63.5%. This was a significant decrease from the rate recorded for Term 4, 2018.
- 156 secondary school students were enrolled at Yarrabah State School. Their attendance rate was 37.4%. This was a significant decrease from the rate recorded for Term 4, 2018.

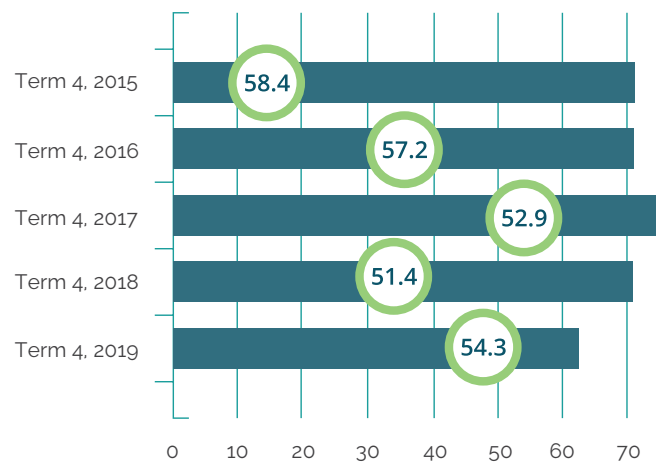
In Term 3, 2020:

- 320 primary school students were enrolled at Yarrabah State School. Their attendance rate was 48%. This was similar to the rate recorded for Term 3, 2019.
- 158 secondary school students were enrolled at Yarrabah State School. Their attendance rate was 30.0%. This was a significant decrease from the rate recorded for Term 3, 2019.

Overall student attendance



Overall student attendance



(B) GOVERNMENT ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT REVIEWS

Many Government and independent reviews of alcohol management in discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities have occurred over the years. Findings and recommendations generally support:

- (a) Ongoing role for AMPs in ensuring community safety
- (b) Local leadership and community ownership important for success
- (c) Targeted strategies required to reduce illicit alcohol (sly grog and homebrew)
- (d) Investment in demand and harm reduction measures required
- (e) Low impact of AMP's on criminal history

Our community is primed to develop a road map towards responsible self-management of alcohol; Moofella Way (Our Way). Your perspectives were/are vitally important to developing our road map. The Queensland Government has recognised that "one of the most significant learnings from our experience to date with AMPs is that community generated and community "owned" proposals can be more effective than government imposed "solutions".⁴

(C) INDEPENDENT ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Independent research into the effectiveness of AMP's in the discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities is generally consistent with the Queensland Government's harm and wellbeing statistics, suggesting that overall under AMP's across the 19 discrete communities:

- Violence has decreased;
- Community is a better place to live (amenity);
- There is an improvement in safety for residents (especially children);
- School attendance has improved;
- Awareness of the harms of alcohol has improved;
- Sly-grog has become a greater issue (both homebrew and commercially-sourced);
- There is a greater "binge drinking" culture due to urgency to consume illicit alcohol;
- Some residents leave community to access legal alcohol elsewhere;
- Increased resident criminalisation rate (fines and convictions) due to breach of carriage limits; and
- There has been an increase in illicit drug use (mainly cannabis) as a substitute for alcohol.⁵

Independent research has concluded that "people living in the communities are divided in their opinions about ways forward. The majority of affected communities are reportedly seeking some loosening, but not abandonment, of restrictions." Independent research recommendations include:

- More strategic efforts to reduce the supply of illicit alcohol at State and regional levels;
- An increase in efforts to address family violence; and
- A scaling up of demand and harm reduction activities including well-resourced and appropriate alcohol (and drug) prevention and treatment services.⁶

⁴ House of Representative Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs Inquiry into the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities - Queensland Government submission, May 2014, p3.

⁵ Summary of Results to Date – JCU – Clough A – December 2016; Clough, A.R., Margolis, S.A., Miller, A. et al. Alcohol management plans in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) Australian communities in Queensland: community residents have experienced favourable impacts but also suffered unfavourable ones. *BMC Public Health* 17, 55 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-016-3995-8>

⁶ *Ibid.*

Independent research has suggested that "it is not clear that relaxing restrictions would reverse the harmful impacts of AMPs without significant demand reduction, treatment and diversion efforts." ⁷ That is, without adequate and well-utilised/ implemented demand reductions, treatment and diversionary services/ measures, AMP's in their current form may be the "the lesser of the two evils" (AMP's vs alcohol-related harm).

Further, in 2008 James Cook University (d'Abbs & MaClaren) undertook a community survey regarding the establishment of a liquor-licensed venue in Yarrabah (connected to the Yarrabah Seahawks). The study observed community support for a licensed-venue with the following characteristics:

- a. Alcohol to be served strictly with meals (bistro) and to promote moderation; alongside social/ recreational activities;
- b. Caters also for non-drinkers;
- c. Children should not be present;
- d. A primary focus on responsible sale of alcohol, over profit;
- e. Connected to local alcohol support and diversionary services;
- f. Takeaways are not supported as this dilutes the family/ recreational purpose of the Club;
- g. Strong regulation of responsible sale and consumption of alcohol (including consequences for breach eg. bans from the Club); and
- h. Subject to regular independent evaluation. ⁸



The Yarrabah Djunngaal Elders Group is collaborating with Yarrabah artists to create dresses for the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ 'A Licensed Club in Yarrabah? Managing Rewards, Minimising Risks', d'Abbs & MaClaren, James Cook University. July 2008.

RESPONDENT SUMMARY – YOUR VOICE

At this stage of the CSP program, we wanted to understand your perspectives on: -

- (a) the demand for alcohol in Yarrabah, including resident alcohol preference, the age group alcohol is most-in-demand, and how often residents would consume alcohol (demand);
- (b) the current and future availability (delivery-method) of alcohol in Yarrabah (supply)
- (c) what alcohol support services (rehabilitation, treatment and diversionary) should be available in Yarrabah (harm minimisation).

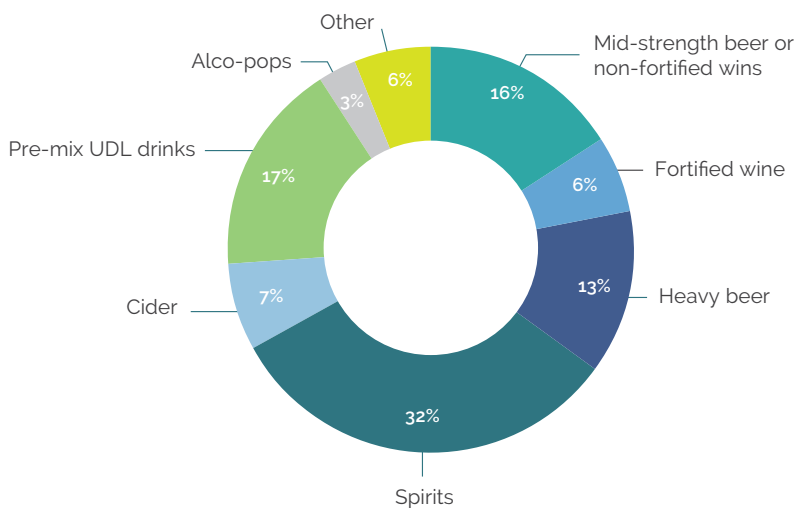
(A) DEMAND

Respondents were asked for their preferred alcohol beverage and how often they would ordinarily consume alcohol (and when). Respondents were asked to think not just about their preferences whilst in Yarrabah, but also whilst outside Yarrabah.

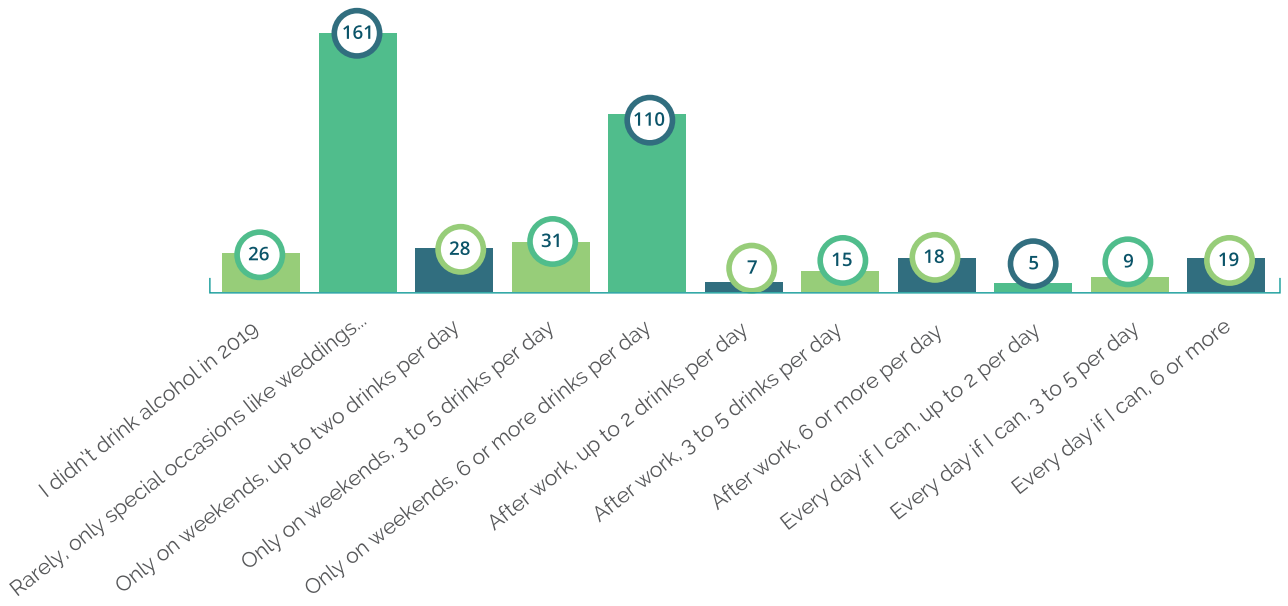
The results demonstrate that a high percentage of respondents prefer drinks other than beer and wine presently available under the current AMP carriage limit. Responses demonstrate that 38% of respondents drink rarely – on special occasions such as weddings, funeral or birthday party events. This response may be consistent with the existence of current carriage limits in Yarrabah, and not indicative of future consumption.

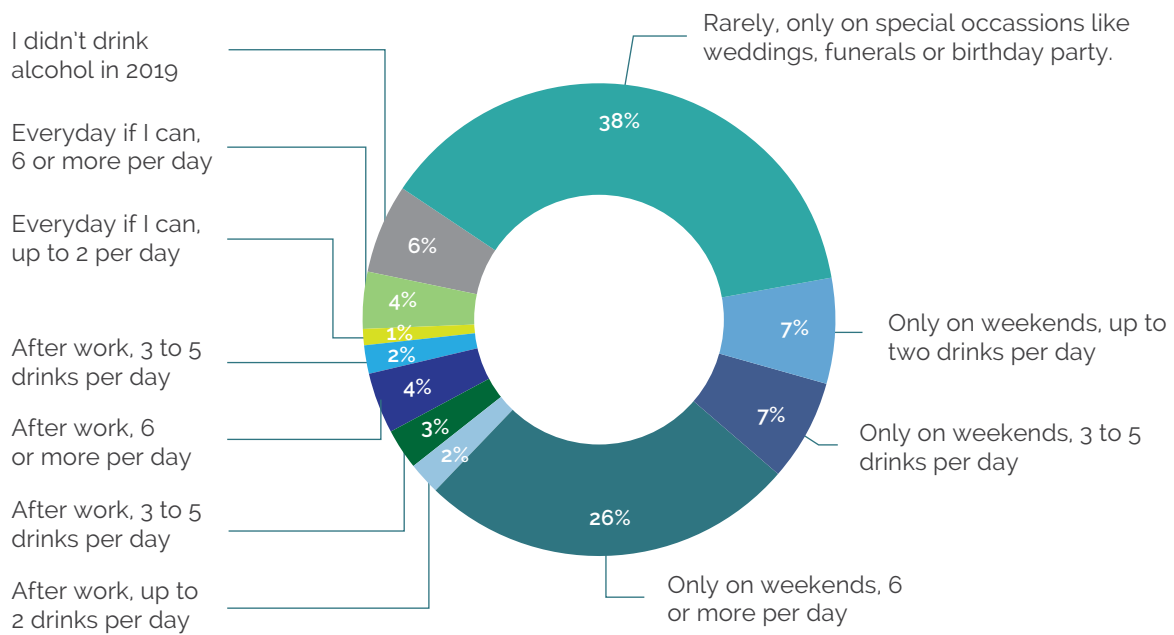
26% of respondents drink six (6) or more drinks per day on weekends. Of this cohort, 37% were aged 26-35 years.

What is your preferred alcoholic drink?

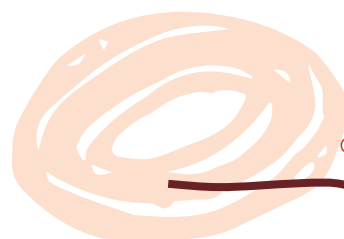
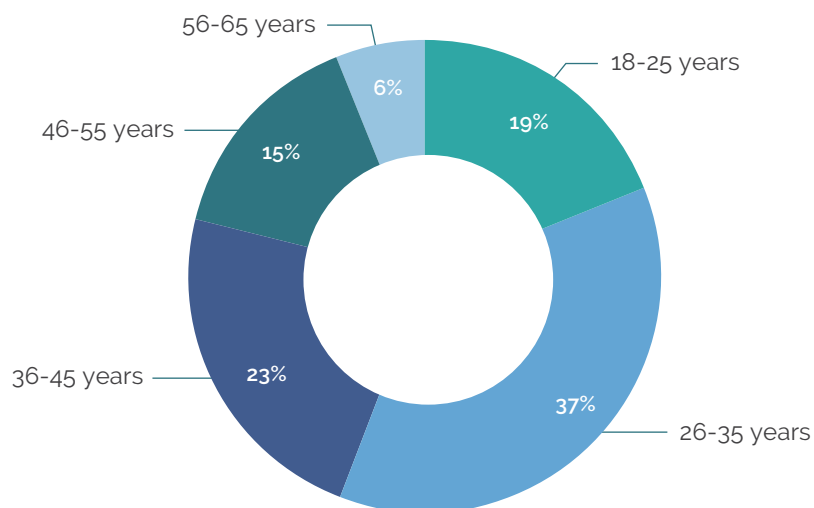


DURING 2019, HOW OFTEN DID YOU DRINK?





SURVEY RESPONDENTS WHO DRINK 'ON WEEKENDS, 6 OR MORE PER DAY' BY AGE



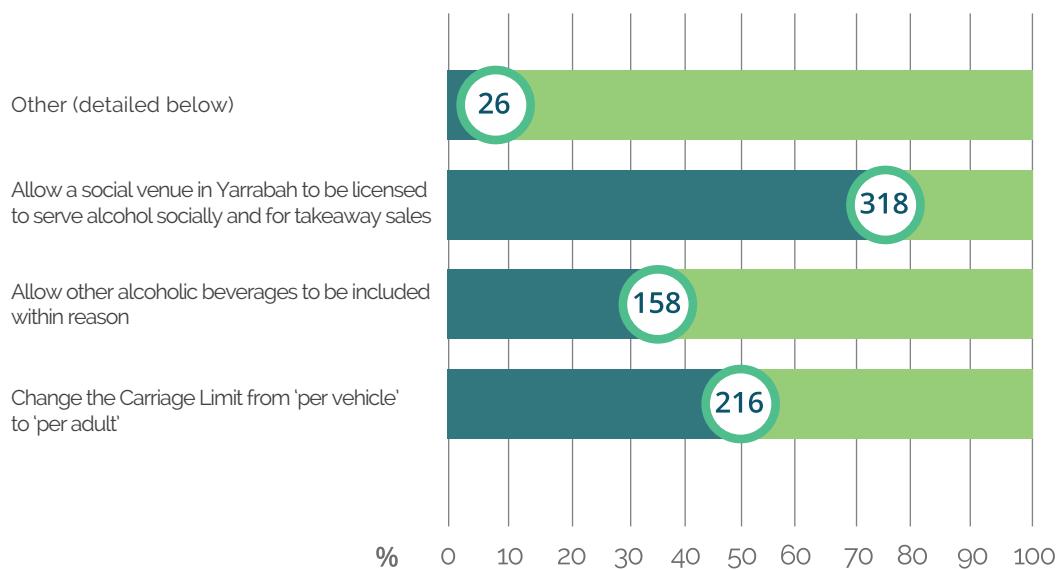
(B) SUPPLY

Respondents were asked whether they would support changes to the carriage limits, and if so, what?

Respondents provided free text responses to the "other" category, recommending the following additional options, namely:

- Zero carriage limit (alcohol-free community);
- Exclude bottles – canned drinks alcohol only;
- No change to carriage limits;
- Remove carriage limit – unlimited alcohol allowed;
- Allow takeaways / mobile delivery/ drive thru.

Overall, responses affirmed the independent 2008 JCU study regarding "in principle" support for a licensed venue in Yarrabah. There was general support for changes to carriage limits (including types of alcohol available, quantities and per adult measure).



(C) HARM MINIMISATION

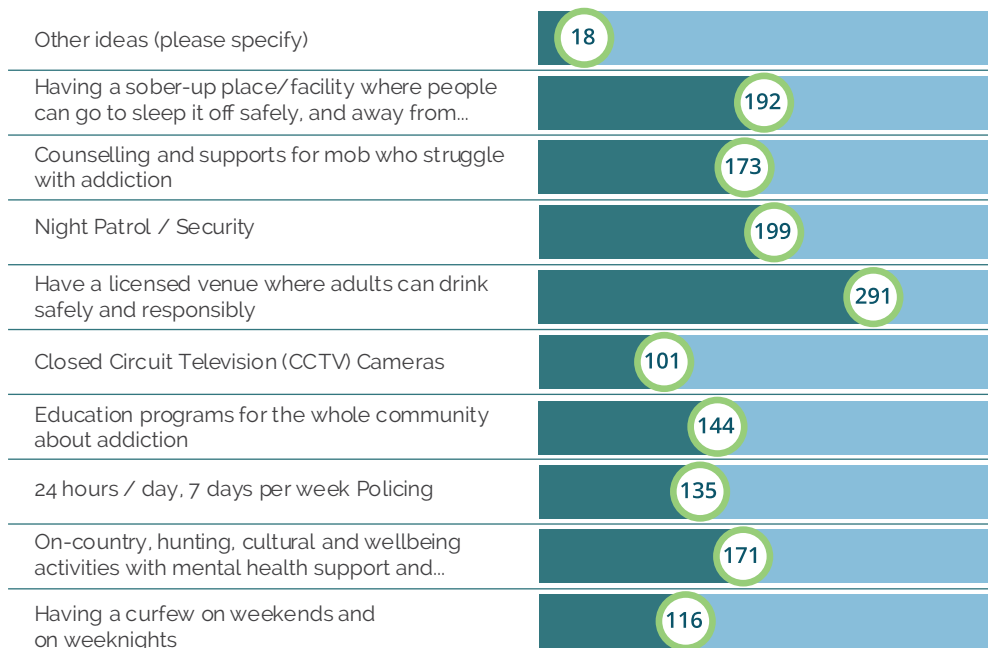
Respondents were asked what alcohol-related support services should be available in Yarrabah to improve safety and perceptions of safety.

Respondents provided free text responses to the "other ideas" category, recommending:

1. Courtesy bus
2. Men shelter / outstation, bigger youth drop in centre
3. More street lights
4. Enforcement of noise breaches (parties etc).

Again, a licensed venue for responsible sale and consumption of alcohol received the greatest support by respondents. It is also clear from the results that there is a demand for greater rehabilitation, treatment and diversionary services in Yarrabah (community education, counselling, sober-up place, on-country activities) as well greater surveillance and enforcement (policing, security, CCTV).

Harm Minimisation



ACTION AREAS

The following Action Areas comprise Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire's initial pathway out of AMP's and into responsible self-management of alcohol; Moofella: Our Way.

1) ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT – MOOFELLA WAY - OUR WAY

AIM: To develop a holistic framework (Moofella Way – Our Way) for responsible self-management of alcohol which addresses supply, demand and harm minimisation factors.

ACTION:

- a. Carriage Limits - To review carriage limits with a focus on supply, demand and harm minimisation factors, including consideration of proposals such as:
 - i. per person limits vs per vehicle limits;
 - ii. types of alcohol (extending beyond beer and wine);
 - iii. delivery-method – eg. liquor permit/ licenses with a focus on family, recreation and wellbeing over profit (for licensed venues and one-off entertainment events), on a case by case basis, including consideration of the following conditions:
 1. trading hours
 2. takeaways
 3. types of alcohol
 4. purchasing restrictions (# of drinks at a time by patrons)
 5. requirement to be sold with meals/ bistro etc.

APPROACH:

- a. Focused- community workshops on targeted proposals supported in this CSP;
- b. Consideration of findings and recommendations from Action Area 2 (Community Safety (Generally)).
- c. Business case/ model developed by liquor license proponents and submitted to YLF for consideration and comment;
- d. Referral of all carriage limit changes to the YLF for expert advice and comment;
- e. Application(s) to the Queensland Government (eg. OLGR).

ACTION OWNER: YASC

TIMEFRAME: By 30 June 2022

ACTION:

- b. Community Education - To review effectiveness of current community education programs (content and delivery-method) around alcohol awareness (addiction and substance education), with a particular focus on Yarrabah youth demographic (15-25) and provide comment/ seek additional supports (including funding) to facilitate improvement.

APPROACH:

- a. Focused- stakeholder workshops;
- b. YLF expert advice and comment;
- c. YLF Recommendations and;
- d. Implementation.

ACTION OWNER: YLF

TIMEFRAME: By 30 June 2022

ACTION:

- c. Alcohol and Mental Health Support Services – To review effectiveness, utilisation of places, data-collection, location, cultural-appropriateness and sufficiency of funding of/for current alcohol and mental health support services (rehabilitation, treatment and diversion) in Yarrabah, including but not limited to:
 - i. a 'sober-up' facility
 - ii. AOD support
 - iii. Family/Domestic Violence
 - iv. Parenting courses
 - v. Career/employment planning
 - vi. Financial/money matters

APPROACH:

- a. Focused- stakeholder workshops;
- b. YLF expert advice and comment;
- c. YLF Recommendations and;
- d. Implementation.

ACTION OWNER: YLF

TIMEFRAME: By 30 June 2022

ACTION:

- d. Community Participation Events – To research and investigate creative options/ methods for a community calendar, including:
 - i. Clean up Yarrabah day (BBQ's provided etc)
 - ii. Youth music video making program (offered during 6pm-8pm keeping youth from roaming the streets)
 - iii. Men's and Women's circles – informal, once a week (See also Action Area 1(b) Community Education)
 - iv. Mum's and bub's mornings, story times etc
 - v. Program for young people aged 17-25 to be transported to Cairns for a day to attend local open day's for TAFE, UNI etc
 - vi. Conduct monthly or quarterly 'have your say' days (BBQ's) – encourage discussion and care for community direction.

APPROACH:

- a. YLF to develop an events calendar;
- b. YASC to publish events calendar to community and;
- c. YASC to continue to update the events calendar.

ACTION OWNER: YASC

TIMEFRAME: By 31 December 2021 (for 2022).

2) COMMUNITY SAFETY (GENERALLY)

AIM: To develop a holistic Community Safety Plan covering all community safety concerns relevant to the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council, including actions to inform the future strategic planning and budgets of Council.

ACTION:

- a. Community Safety Plan (General) - Expand the CSP Program to undertake Yarrabah public engagement on community and stakeholder perspectives of safety more broadly to inform Action Area 1 (Alcohol Management – Moofella Way (Our Way)), including expansion on community concerns to assess and improve our response to the following potential safety concerns:
 - i. Noise (parties/ hooning etc)
 - ii. Infrastructure - street lighting, footpaths, community amenity;
 - iii. Policing
 - iv. Surveillance (CCTV)
 - v. Alcohol dependence/ diversionary services (and provider performance)
 - vi. Vulnerable groups (ie. youth/disabled/ aged care) (and provider performance)
 - vii. Security
 - viii. Transport – roads
 - ix. Housing – social housing
 - x. Planning – master planning
 - xi. Animal control
 - xii. Environment
 - xiii. Water/ Waste
 - xiv. Local Laws
 - xv. Money Management (eg. gambling)

APPROACH:

- a. Community engagement with community residents and community stakeholders via methods such as surveys, workshops, focus groups and semi-structured interviews;
- b. Referral of draft CSP to YLF for expert advice and comment;
- c. Community verification – consultation draft released for 30 days;
- d. Adoption by your Council.

ACTION OWNER: Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

TIMEFRAME: By 31 December 2021





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