

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 232

Topic: Alcohol in the NT

Hansard Page: 3 June 2011, CA 64

Senator Siewert asked:

Did the Commonwealth undertake any analysis of the effectiveness of the alcohol prohibitions on the 73 communities in isolation from any other measures, such as reducing the number of licenses or such as price controls? Please provide any analysis the Commonwealth has done in relation to the effectiveness of the combination of measures of price control, reducing licences, take-away free days.

Answer:

The whole-of-government evaluation of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) measures being carried out by the Australian Government in partnership with the Northern Territory Government will study the impact of alcohol restrictions on trends in crime, community safety and wellbeing. The evaluation will compare places that were 'dry' before the NTER with places that had restrictions introduced under the NTER, and will also examine the effect of increased policing.

The National Drug Research Institute at Curtin University of Technology, through Australian Government funding, is currently undertaking a longitudinal study of influences on alcohol consumption and related harm in Central Australia with an emphasis on the role of price. The aim of the research is to examine the association between price-related controls on the availability of alcohol and levels of consumption and related harm in Central Australia for the period 1999-2009. The final research report is expected at the end of 2011.