

Thursday 30 September 2021

Via email: DASSAHealthPolicy@sa.gov.au

RE: Collection of wholesale alcohol sales data in South Australia

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission on behalf of South Australia's restaurant, café and catering industry regarding the reintroduction of the collection of wholesale alcohol sales data.

R&CA is the national industry association representing the interests of more than 48,000 restaurants, cafés and catering businesses across Australia. The café, restaurant and catering sector is vitally important to the national economy, generating over \$37 billion in retail turnover each year as well as employing 450,000 people. Over 92 per cent of businesses in the café, restaurant and catering sector are small businesses, employing 19 people or less.

R&CA delivers tangible outcomes to small businesses within the hospitality industry by influencing the policy decisions and regulations that impact the sector's operating environment. R&CA is committed to ensuring the industry is recognised as one of excellence, professionalism, profitability and sustainability. This includes advocating the broader social and economic contribution of the sector to industry and government stakeholders, as well as highlighting the value of the restaurant experience to the public.

R&CA broadly supports the implementation of the scheme outlined in the discussion paper and is supportive of the collection of wholesale alcohol sales data must being limited to wholesale licensees only.

R&CA requests that assurances are made that there are no flow-on burdens or costs passed on to restaurants, cafes and catering services. R&CA notes that the discussion paper does outline that existing collection methods will be used and takes comfort in the fact that current reporting methods do not increase costs for hospitality venues.

Many cafes and restaurants are small, family-run businesses who, in comparison to larger licensed venues, do not possess the kind of technological capabilities to record alcohol sales data in a time and cost-efficient way. The primary activity of cafes and restaurants is the provision of food rather than the sale of alcohol. This leads to significantly less risk of alcohol-related assaults and anti-social behaviour.

We request that steps are taken to ensure that there is not unnecessary burden or cost passed onto the hospitality sector.

We look forward to hearing from you on this matter and thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Sincerely,



Wes Lambert CPA FGIA MAICD
Chief Executive Officer
Restaurant and Catering Australia

Cc:

Dini Soulio
Commissioner
Consumer and Business Services

Marina Bowshall
State Director
Drug and Alcohol Services SA



Restaurant
& Catering