



GARY HIGGINS
OPPOSITION LEADER

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Where are the liquor inspectors?

The Leader of the Opposition, Gary Higgins says that today's unveil of the appointed Liquor Commission does not go far enough to keep Territorians safe.

The Northern Territory Alcohol Policies and Legislation Review, handed down in October 2017, made a strong recommendation of introducing liquor inspectors.

The Leader of the Opposition, Gary Higgins said that the liquor (licensing) inspectors, which would operate at takeaway alcohol outlets should be recruited and introduced as a priority.

"Prior to, and during February parliamentary sittings, I offered the Opposition's support to government to commence advertising for liquor inspectors.

"While Territorians wait for the introduction of liquor inspectors, alcohol related crime continues to increase.

"The most recent crime statistics (comparison 31/12/2016 to the year ended 31/12/2017) show an increasingly worrying trend in alcohol related assaults, which have increased more than 19 per cent across the Northern Territory, including more than 45 per cent in Palmerston, more than 20 per cent in Tennant Creek, over 22 per cent in Katherine and over 25 per cent in Alice Springs.

"Relying on the Banned Drinker Register (BDR) is not enough.

"I continue my calls for the Labor government to introduce liquor inspectors at takeaway alcohol outlets as a priority.

"Territorians safety must be the priority," said Mr Higgins.

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