



**Dr Peter Toyne**

MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL

17.02.05

## **CRIME-FIGHTING FUNDING**

Pub and club staff will gain more guidance on how to deal with drink spiking incidents with the help of a \$36,125 grant from the Northern Territory Government.

The Australian Hotels Association is one of 16 successful applicants to the government's NT Crime Prevention Grant Scheme 2004/05 round.

Justice Minister Dr Peter Toyne today announced the successful new recipients of the grants.

"This is an important part of the Building Safer Communities framework – communities and the Government working together to combat crime," Dr Toyne said.

"Property crime has already been cut in half and we're working hard to reduce the rate of violent crime.

"One violent crime being targeted under this round of grants is drug facilitated sexual assault – drink spiking.

"The AHA project will be conducted with the help of the Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Workers Union (NT)," Dr Toyne said.

"Key activities will include wider distribution of the Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault protocol which was developed by the Department of Health and Community Services in conjunction with the AHA and other government and non-government organisations," Dr Toyne said.

Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault describes a situation where a person's ability to consent to or refuse sexual activity is impaired as a result of consuming too much alcohol and/or major drugs, either by the victim's own choice or because of drink spiking.

Executive Director of the Australian Hotels Association, Ms Sally Fielke said the grant would provide assistance for the AHA to continue to educate licensees and their staff in relation to drink spiking/ drug facilitated sexual assault following the initial launch of the Protocol in July last year.

"A main priority of licensees and their staff is patron safety," Ms Fielke said.

"The grant will enable us to individually visit licensed premises, sit down with staff and educate them on how and where drink spiking usually occurs, what to do if it occurs and available support services.

"Although not a major problem in the Territory, the training is more about awareness and prevention.



“If our training can help contain any further incidents of drinks spiking and promote a message to the public that it will not be tolerated on licensed premises, then we have achieved our goal.”

“As part of the training staff receive a copy of the Protocol, complimented by a Guide for Hospitality Staff and Stickers to be placed strategically around the premises.

“This is an important document and will be complemented by a guide for hospitality staff.

Dr Toyne said competition was hot for the Crime Prevention Grants and the chosen 16 reflect a diverse range of projects and objectives.

As well as the AHA/LHMWU project the wide range of program recipients included: \$50,000 to Mission Australia for its *Community Safety Through Family Participation* pilot project, \$15,000 to the Alice Springs Youth Accommodation Support Service for its *Deadly Treadlies* program and \$10,000 to the Palmerston City Council for an artwork collaboration initiative.

A project list with more detail is attached. There was also some funding to ongoing programs from previous crime grants years. And administrative grants were given to each of the 10 Regional and Indigenous Crime Prevention Committees.

The NT Crime Prevention Grant Scheme annually grants \$400,000 in funding to support community crime prevention projects that build safer communities. It is split over three levels – small crime prevention grants, regional crime prevention council grants and targeted crime prevention grants.

#### **Small Crime Prevention Grants:**

Small grants of up to \$15,000. Available to community organisations to develop innovative crime prevention projects.

#### **Regional and Indigenous Crime Prevention Council Grants:**

Establishing Regional and Indigenous Crime Prevention Councils is a key focus of the Government's plan to tackle crime across the Territory.

The Regional and Indigenous Crime Prevention Grant pool includes specific grants of \$5000 to establish Regional and Indigenous Crime Prevention Councils, and grant funding to support the development of regional crime prevention projects.

Regional and Indigenous Crime Prevention Councils may apply for grant funding for regional crime prevention strategies.

The Councils stimulate and sustain community involvement in crime prevention and provide advice to Government on what's working in crime prevention for each region of the Territory.

#### **Targeted Crime Prevention Grants:**

Evidence based crime prevention strategies that target identified crime problems may be eligible for Targeted Crime Prevention Grant funding.

A total funding pool of \$180,000 each year is available for larger targeted crime prevention projects. Projects may also be eligible for recurrent funding in this category.

Trial crime prevention projects can be eligible for targeted crime prevention grants and proposed projects can be co-funded by Government or other partners.

The \$20,500 grant to the Shop Distributive and Allied Employees Association in a previous round helped produce a Shop Safe Kit for retailers which is used to reduce the incidence of crime in the retail industry, particularly armed robbery and other violent crimes against retail workers.

The grants are administered by the Office of Crime Prevention in the Department of Justice.

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