

Liquor Commission of Western Australia

2025–26 Annual Report

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Acknowledgement of country and peoples

The Liquor Commission acknowledges Aboriginal people throughout Western Australia as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands, waters, and communities in which we operate. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal people and their cultures, and to Elders past and present.

ISSN: 2207-2063

Statement of compliance

Hon Don Punch MLA
Minister for Racing and Gaming

In accordance with the *Liquor Control Act 1988*, I am pleased to present, for your information and presentation to Parliament, the final Annual Report on the activities of the Liquor Commission of Western Australia for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

The Final Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of clause 13 of Schedule 1F of the *Liquor Control Act 1988*.



Lanie Chopping
Director of Liquor Licensing
Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety

30 September 2026

Overview of the Liquor Commission

Executive summary

Statement from the Liquor Commission Chairperson

This final Annual Report marks the conclusion of the Liquor Commission's tenure, from its establishment on 7 May 2007 to its closure on 30 June 2026. As Chairperson, I am pleased to acknowledge the Commission's contributions during this period and the commitment of its members to the fair and effective administration of liquor regulation in Western Australia.

Over nearly two decades, the Commission has played a vital role as an independent decision-making body within Western Australia's liquor regulatory framework. During this time, both the liquor industry and the regulatory environment under the *Liquor Control Act 1988* have evolved significantly. The Commission has exercised its statutory responsibilities with integrity, fairness, and independence, determining a broad range of complex matters, including licensing applications, reviews, and disciplinary proceedings. In doing so, it has consistently upheld the objects of the *Liquor Control Act 1988*, balancing the interests of industry development with the paramount need to minimise alcohol-related harm and protect community wellbeing.

Throughout its operation, the Commission has contributed to a transparent, accountable, and principled regulatory environment. Its decisions have been grounded in evidence, responsive to changing community expectations, and mindful of the diverse social, cultural and economic contexts across Western Australia. The Commission has also worked to ensure that its processes were accessible and clear, supporting applicants and stakeholders to participate effectively in proceedings.

As the Commission concludes its work, its powers and responsibilities transferred to the State Administrative Tribunal of Western Australia (the Tribunal) on 1 July 2026. I extend my sincere thanks to the Tribunal for its longstanding support in hosting Liquor Commission hearings, and for its collaboration in preparing for this transition. I wish the Tribunal every success in undertaking its expanded role.

I also acknowledge and thank the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety for the professional executive support it has provided to the Commission over many years. The Department's expertise and commitment have been instrumental in enabling the Commission to carry out its functions effectively and efficiently.

Importantly, I express my deep appreciation to all past and present members of the Commission whether their tenure was long or short. Their dedication, professionalism, and careful stewardship of the Commission's responsibilities have underpinned its reputation as a fair, independent and respected panel. Their collective contribution and expertise have left a lasting legacy within the State's regulatory landscape.

It has been a privilege to serve as Chairperson during this final chapter of the Commission's work. The Commission concludes its operations with confidence that the principles and practices embodied will continue within the new framework, supporting both a responsible liquor industry and the wellbeing of the Western Australian community.



Emma Power
Former Chairperson

30 September 2026

Operational structure

Enabling legislation

The Commission was established under section 8 of the *Liquor Control Act 1988* (the Act) to provide a flexible system to review the decisions of the Director of Liquor Licensing (Director), with as little formality and technicality as practicable. The Commission came into effect on 7 May 2007, replacing the Liquor Licensing Court.

The *Liquor Commission Rules 2007* underpinned the Commission's practices and procedures together with provisions of the *Liquor Control Regulations 1989* relating to costs and charges payable in relation to proceedings under the Act.

In December 2025, the *Liquor Control Amendment Act 2025* (Amendment Act) was passed by the Western Australian Parliament and received Royal Assent. The Amendment Act removed the Commission's review and disciplinary powers.

The Commission ceased to exist on 30 June 2026, and the Commission's review and disciplinary responsibilities set out under the Act were transferred to the State Administrative Tribunal on 1 July 2026.

Responsible Minister

During 2025-26, the Minister responsible for the Commission was Hon Paul Papalia CSC MLA, Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services; Defence Industries; Veterans; Racing and Gaming.

Responsibilities of the Commission

The Commission's primary function was to adjudicate on matters brought before it through referral by the Director, or by an application for a review of a decision made by the Director. Reviews were conducted by way of a re-hearing, enabling the Commission to make its own determinations on the merits of each case. When considering an application for review, the Commission could have regard to the material that was before the Director when making the decision.

The Commission was responsible for:

- awarding costs associated with matters before the Commission under section 21 of the Act.
- determining liquor licensing matters referred by the Director under section 24 of the Act.
- conducting reviews of decisions made by the Director under section 25 of the Act, or by a single Member of the Commission under section 28(4) of the Act.
- conducting reviews into decisions based on a question of law.
- determining complaints and disciplinary matters in accordance with section 95 of the Act.
- determining applications for review of a barring notice issued by the Commissioner under section 115AA(2) of the Act.
- determining applications for the forfeiture of illegal gains where a person contravenes the Act or a condition of a licence or permit under section 147 of the Act.

- determining applications for review of a short-term exclusion order issued by the Western Australian Police Force (WAPF) under section 152NH of the Act.
- determining applications for the review of a Banned Drinker Order issued by the WAPF under section 152YY of the Act.
- reporting annually to the Minister for Racing and Gaming on the activities of the Commission.
- reporting to the Minister for Racing and Gaming, when requested to do so, on the jurisdiction and functions of the Commission, including the provision of high-level policy advice relevant to liquor control matters.

Administrative structure

At 30 June 2026, the Commission consisted of seven members:

Ms Emma Power – Chairperson

Ms Power has been working predominately in property, development, corporate and commercial law. Prior to studying law, she was a secondary school teacher of visual arts. In 2017, she became the principal of the private law practice Power Commercial Law. Ms Power was also the primary legal member of the Local Government Standards Panel from 2018 until 2026.

Mr Nicholas van Hattem – Deputy Chairperson

Mr van Hattem is a barrister with experience in commercial, government and criminal law matters. Prior to joining Francis Burt Chambers, he worked as a solicitor at Freehills, the Aboriginal Legal Service, Rio Tinto and the State Solicitor's Office. In 2020, Mr van Hattem served as President of the Law Society of Western Australia.

Mr Paul Shanahan

Mr Shanahan has over 35 years' experience as a legal practitioner, in commercial litigation and dispute resolution. His practice has focused primarily on contract disputes, regulatory issues, administrative law, negligence, product liability, insurance and risk management, and building and construction.

Ms Elanor Rowe

Ms Rowe has practiced as a solicitor in both England and Australia and was admitted as a lawyer in the Supreme Court of Western Australia in 2010. Ms Rowe currently works in property management and was a legal member of the Local Government Standards Panel.

Ms Pamela Hass

Ms Hass is an experienced general counsel with a background in higher education and resources, and a demonstrated expertise in board governance. Ms Hass has practiced in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra and Perth, in both private and public practice, specialising as in-house General Counsel for several large universities. Ms Hass holds a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from the University of Queensland, a Master of Laws from the University of Western Australia, and a Bachelor of Arts from Deakin University.

Ms Mary Brown

Ms Brown has over 30 years of public sector leadership experience. Her distinguished career spans law enforcement, corruption prevention, policy development, legislative reform, and she is a member on various governance committees. Ms Brown is currently the Executive Director, Professional Standards and Conduct at the Department of Education, with strategic responsibility for the functions of multi-disciplinary teams across legal and legislative services, risk and assurance, misconduct and reportable conduct, integrity education, child death reviews and criminal history screening.

Mr Jared Brotherston

Mr Brotherston has over 25 years' experience as a director and company secretary and has held executive and senior management positions in the postal services, construction, transport and logistics industries. Mr Brotherston is currently employed with a major lithium mining company, with responsibility for contracting, procurement and supply chain management. He is a qualified barrister and solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand, and a legal practitioner in Western Australia.

The Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety provided executive support for the Commission in 2025-26.

Performance summary

The following tables provide details of the number, nature and outcome of applications before the Commission as of 30 June 2026.

The Commission determined 58 applications in 2025-26:

Applications determined in 2025-26				
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**	**Outcome**
21/1920	KEDD v Commissioner of Police	21	Application for costs by the Applicant against the Respondent	Application dismissed
21/1920	Commissioner of Police v KEDD	24	Referral by the Director of Liquor Licensing of an application by the Commissioner of Police for revocation of approved managers approval	Application dismissed
25/1241	Paul Spittle and Stephen Bianchini v Waikiki Hotel (WA) Pty Ltd	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to conditionally grant a tavern restricted licence in relation to premises known as the Waikiki Beach Hotel	Application dismissed
25/5670	NFB v Director of Liquor Licensing	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to refuse an application for approval as an approved manager	Application withdrawn

Applications determined in 2025-26				
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**	**Outcome**
24/7057	SFG v Director of Liquor Licensing	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to refuse an application for approval as an unrestricted approved manager	Application dismissed
25/241	HA v Commissioner of Police	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to make a prohibitor order	Prohibition order varied
24/1306	Benjamin Lawver v Liquorland (Australia) Pty Ltd	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to conditionally grant the removal of a liquor store licence from premises known as Liquorland Hamilton Hill to premises known as Liquorland Hilton	Decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing is affirmed
24/5983	Bluffpoint Pty Ltd v Milem Pty Ltd	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to conditionally grant a liquor store licence for premises known as The Good Grocer Cellar East Fremantle	Application dismissed
24/2693	VM v Commissioner of Police	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to make a prohibitor order	Application dismissed
22/4269	Liquorland (Australia) Pty Ltd v Director of Liquor Licensing	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to refuse the grant of a liquor store licence in relation to premises known as Liquorland Southern River East	Application granted
24/2382	Ameera Pty Ltd v Liquorland (Australia) Pty Ltd	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to conditionally grant a liquor store licence in relation to premises known as Liquorland Yanchep	Application dismissed
25/2464	SPB v Commissioner of Police	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to make a prohibition order	Application dismissed
25/387	Fiorita Pty Ltd v Director of Liquor Licensing	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to refuse an application to vary the trading conditions of a tavern licence in respect of premises known as Fiorita Wine and Bar	Application dismissed

Applications determined in 2025-26				
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**	**Outcome**
24/1931	Bushtree Holdings Pty Ltd v Director of Liquor Licensing	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to refuse an application to vary the trading conditions of a restaurant licence and extended trading permits for premises known as Jarrah	Application granted
24/6148	RACWA Holdings Pty Ltd v 11 Forty-Five Pty Ltd	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to conditionally grant a nightclub licence for premises known as 11:45	Application withdrawn
24/6303	Chief Health Officer v Murdoch Pine Golf Pty Ltd	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to conditionally grant a Tavern Restricted licence for premises known as Outta Bounds without imposing further trading conditions on that licence	Application dismissed
24/1296	MAM v Commissioner of Police	25	Application for review of the decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to make a prohibition order	Prohibition order quashed
24/862	Commissioner of Police v KH	95	Complaint by the Commissioner of Police alleging there is proper cause for disciplinary action	Complaint withdrawn
25/4503	HK v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice quashed
25/4864	AT v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice quashed
25/2441	KLR v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
25/5766	JR v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice quashed
25/4647	JDP v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
25/5667	KS v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
25/5668	TA v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/6247	CJC v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied

Applications determined in 2025-26				
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**	**Outcome**
25/5669	AW v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/6267	DCA v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/7487	JDB v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice quashed
25/4648	LFB v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application closed due to lack of progress from Applicant
25/7682	ATME v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
25/6451	REW v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
25/6721	JRS v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/6699	RCW v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/7569	AGW v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/6720	AFD v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/8075	SGB v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
25/4704	ATW v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application closed due to lack of progress from Applicant
DMS01726/2026	AEH v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
DMS01560/2026	CRW v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
DMS02089/2026	IRN v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed

Applications determined in 2025-26				
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**	**Outcome**
DMS03588/2026	JSL v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
25/5181	SAPH v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
DMS02253/2026	MHA v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
DMS04313/2026	JNM v Commissioner of police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
DMS03172/2026	MJD v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
DMS03686/2026	KTED v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
DMS04383/2026	MJM v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
DMS04522/2026	SRC v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
DMS05103/2026	PBH v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice quashed
DMS04969/2026	DRM v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/3235	DTM v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
25/7681	KME v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied
25/3832	RJM v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
DMS06403/2026	MVL v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
DMS05600/2026	MDS v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Barring notice varied

Applications determined in 2025-26				
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**	**Outcome**
DMS06595/2026	AVS v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice	Application dismissed
24/2233	Director of Liquor Licensing v Cabaret Australia Pty Ltd	147	Application for the forfeiture of illegal gains due to breaches of licence conditions	Respondent ordered to pay the sum of $5,973.80

Matters transferred to the State Administrative Tribunal

In 2025-26, the Commission transferred 3 matters to the State Administrative Tribunal pursuant to section 25A of the *Liquor Control Act 1988*:

Matters transferred to the State Administrative Tribunal pursuant to section 25A of the Act			
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**
25/7452	Jean-Denis Carosin, Chad Gerber and Paolo De Carolis v AVC Operations Pty Ltd	25	Application for review of a decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing in relation to a section 117 complaint against premises known as J B O'Reilly's.
DMS03366/2026	Woodgate Investments Pty Ltd v Jackward Pty Ltd, Wardjack Pty Ltd and Kapinkoff Nominees Pty Ltd	25	Application for review of a decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to refuse the conditional grant of a liquor store licence for premises known as Liquor Barons Woodvale
DMS06639/2026	Sassy Mamma Pty Ltd v Director of Liquor Licensing	25	Application for review of a decision of the Director of Liquor Licensing to impose, vary or cancel licence conditions of a special facility licence for premises known as Sassy Mamma Pty Ltd

As of 30 June 2026, there were 15 matters that will be transferred to the State Administrative Tribunal from 1 July 2026:

Matters to be transferred to the State Administrative Tribunal			
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**
25/2418	Commissioner of Police v CLP	95	Complaint by the Commissioner of Police alleging there is proper cause for disciplinary action
25/2939	Commissioner of Police v Spinifex Holdings (WA) Pty Ltd, Boab Inn Pty Ltd and Emanuel Richard Brian Dillon	95	Complaint by the Commissioner of Police alleging there is proper cause for disciplinary action

Matters to be transferred to the State Administrative Tribunal			
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**
25/6786	Director of Liquor Licensing v Autingo Pty Ltd and MJP	95	Complaint lodged by the Director of Liquor Licensing seeking disciplinary action against the Respondents
25/7968	Commissioner of Police v Afro Authentic Cuisine Pty Ltd	95	Complaint lodged by the Commissioner of Police seeking disciplinary action against licensee
DMS07417/2026	JQ v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS07552/2026	EPD v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS07580/2026	AJP v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS07654/2026	MMH v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS07991/2026	RPJH v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS08046/2026	BNM v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS08397/2026	DC v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS08399/2026	JMH v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS07636/2026	JRKT v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
DMS07637/2026	JMST v Commissioner of Police	115AD	Application for review of a barring notice
21/1917	Director of Liquor Licensing v Spinifex Holdings (WA) Pty Ltd	147	Application by the Director of Liquor Licensing seeking forfeiture of illegal gains due to breaches of licence conditions

Matters transferred to the Director of Liquor Licensing

As of 30 June 2026, there were two matters that will be transferred to the Director of Liquor Licensing from 1 July 2026:

Matters to be transferred to the Director of Liquor Licensing			
Matter Number	**Matter**	**Section of Act**	**Nature of Matter**
25/6271	Commissioner of Police v GBD	24	Referral by the Director of Liquor Licensing of an application by the Commissioner of Police for the revocation of approved manager's approval
25/6272	Commissioner of Police v ED	24	Referral by the Director of Liquor Licensing of an application by the Commissioner of Police for the revocation of approved manager's approval

Other legal and government policy requirements

The Commission met its executive support requirements in 2025-26 through arrangements with the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS). The LGIRS Annual Report contains information on the following matters:

- disability access and inclusion plan outcomes
- compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes
- recordkeeping plans
- agency capability review requirements
- work health and safety and injury management
- the WA multicultural policy framework.
- substantive equality
- workforce inclusiveness requirements
- Closing the Gap requirements.

Unauthorised use of credit cards

There were no identified instances of unauthorised use of corporate credit cards.

Act of Grace payments

There were no act of grace payments made during the reporting period.

Advertising

The Commission did not incur any advertising expenditure in 2025-26.

Remuneration of members

Chairperson

The Chairperson was entitled to payment of:

- $763 per day for hearings or deliberations/meetings of less than four hours; or
- $1,074 per day for hearings or deliberations/meetings of over four hours.
- Plus $129 per hour for preparation time. The applicable allowance was three hours for up to one day of hearings, plus three hours for each additional day or part day of hearings or deliberations.
- Plus $129 per hour for decision-writing time. The applicable allowance was five hours for up to one day of hearings, plus three hours for each additional day or part day of hearings or deliberations.

Members

The members are entitled to payment of:

- $505 per day for hearings or deliberations/meetings of less than four hours; or
- $773 per day for hearings or deliberations/meetings of over four hours.
- Plus $102 per hour for preparation time. The applicable allowance was three hours for up to one day of hearings, plus three hours for each additional day or part day of hearings or deliberations.
- Plus $107 per hour for decision writing time. The applicable allowance was five hours for up to one day of hearings, plus three hours for each additional day or part day of hearings or deliberations.

During the reporting period, the following remuneration figures applied to Commission members:

Position	Member name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross/actual remuneration for 2025-26
Chairperson	Emma Power	Sitting fees plus preparation and decision writing time	1/7/2025	30/6/2026	$16,962
Deputy Chairperson	Nicholas van Hattem	Sitting fees plus preparation and decision writing time	1/7/2025	30/6/2026	$12,786
Member	Shelley Davies	Sitting fees plus preparation and decision writing time	1/7/2025	31/12/2025	$7,571
Member	Anthony Di Francesco	Sitting fees plus preparation and decision writing time	1/7/2025	31/12/2025	$6,225
Member	Paul Shanahan	Sitting fees plus preparation and decision writing time	1/7/2025	30/6/2026	$2,187
Member	Elanor Rowe	Sitting fees plus preparation and decision writing time	1/7/2025	30/6/2026	$5,215
Member	Pamela Hass	Sitting fees plus preparation and decision writing time	1/7/2025	30/6/2026	$9,925
Member	Mary Brown	Not applicable - full-time public-sector employee	1/7/2025	30/6/2026	Nil
Member	Jared Brotherston	Sitting fees plus preparation and decision writing time	1/7/2025	30/6/2026	$34,654
				Total	**$95,525**

Government of Western Australia

Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety

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