

## **AODCCC Response to Alcohol Floor Price in Western Australia**

We appreciate the opportunity to provide a response to the implementation of an Alcohol floor price in Western Australia.

### **About AODCCC**

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The Alcohol and Other Drug Consumer & Community Coalition (AODCCC) is the peak body for alcohol and other drug consumer-driven systemic advocacy in Western Australia. Our aim is to empower the voices of consumers, their families, and supports, who are impacted by alcohol and other drug use.

AODCCC is a membership-driven not-for-profit association with over 414 members as of 22/11/2022.

It is our commitment to ensure that these voices are heard and can stand side to side with community leaders, sector professions, policy makers and government to educate and inform while addressing the common stigmas associated with alcohol and other drug use in our society. Our mission is to promote the interests, education, and welfare of those affected by alcohol and other drug use through community understanding, shaped by the voice of people and families with a living or lived experience of alcohol and other drugs.

### **Consumer Consultation**

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In honouring our vision, the AODCCC consulted with our members, via an online survey. This survey comprised of four questions, which related to the implementation of an Alcohol Floor Price in Western Australia (WA) and has informed our position;

- *Q1. Do you think that a floor price for alcohol should be implemented in WA? Please tell us why/why not.*
- *Q2 What do you think the impacts (both negative and/or positive) will be of implementing a floor price in WA?*
- *Q3 Do you think any other initiatives are needed to address alcohol-related harms in WA?*
- *Q4 Any other feedback you would like to provide on this topic?*

In addition, on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022, The AODCCC hosted WANADA (Western Australia Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies) and Cancer Council WA to provide an online briefing on this topic to our Reference Group participants, and all AODCCC members were invited to attend.

The AODCCC extends our appreciation to our members who contributed to this consultation process. These responses guide the AODCCC's position, and recommendations on this matter, as outlined below.

### **AODCCC Position and Recommendations**

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While in principle AODCCC supports the implementation of a minimum floor price for alcohol. We do however acknowledge the challenges that exist in relation to addressing the complex and multi-faceted nature of alcohol-related harms within the community.

The AODCCC recognises that positively the implementation of an alcohol floor price in Western Australia has potential to influence a reduction in under-age consumption, and therefore a prevention of harm to future generations.

Echoing the voice of our membership, the AODCCC expresses concerns that the implementation of an alcohol floor price may mean that individuals from lower economic circumstances, are indirectly discriminated by this initiative, as such AODCCC supports the proposal on the condition that the below recommendations are addressed in conjunction with the Floor Price.

- Community consultations which foster the engagement of people with a direct/indirect lived and/or living experience of alcohol use need to be at the forefront of this work. This ensures that any adopted initiatives are community-led, versus, externally imposed, resulting in more meaningful and person-centred outcomes.
- Careful consideration needs to be given to the intergenerational factors that contribute to alcohol use. Resources and supports need to be targeted towards providing care in a holistic, culturally appropriate, and meaningful way which address these intergenerational components.
- The adoption of policies and interventions need to be trauma informed and guided by shame-sensitive practice.
- The contextualisation of an individual, or a communities alcohol use needs to be considered to effectively address the underlying factors that contribute to its use.
- Additional funding and resources need to be allocated to Alcohol and Other Drug services to provide effective, widespread, and timely related support, including withdrawal provision.