

Changes to the NSW *Liquor Act 2007* on 1 July 2008 make it a requirement to undertake a Community Impact Statement (CIS) prior to making application for a licence to sell alcohol. This process has been introduced by the NSW Government to ensure that the local community is involved in all liquor licence applications

The focus of the CIS process is to ensure local stakeholders are properly consulted by prospective licence holders without unnecessary complication and reducing costs to the new applicant. To support the new applicant there have been two levels of CIS developed as not all licence categories carry the same risk to the community. The table below provides a summary of the category of CIS required for the licence type.

Category A	Category B
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Packaged liquor licence limited to the sale /supply of liquor through an internet site only■ On-premises licence for a restaurant■ Drink on-premises authorisation for a wine producer■ Extended trading authorisation outside the standard trading hours for an on-premises licence■ Any other application for which the Authority requires a category A CIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Hotel licence■ Club licence■ Packaged liquor licence (other than a licence limited through an internet site)■ On-premises licence for a public entertainment venue other than a cinema or a theatre■ Extended trading authorisation for each of the above licences and others

The CIS must be prepared fully before a liquor licence application can be lodged. The CIS will summarise the results of consultation by applicants with local councils, police, health, Aboriginal representatives, community organisations and the public (depending on the requirements for the new licence type). A Category B CIS requires greater consultation with the community than a Category A.

The following steps are completed as part of CHD Partners CIS process.

- Circulate notification to all residents with 100 metres of venue seeking a licence
- Review local crime data
- Consult critical stakeholders
- Liaise with the Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing
- Review local plans (including crime prevention plan, social plan, etc)
- Conduct site visits (day/night) of area and identify exiting environmental factors
- Prepare Community Impact Statement

CHD Partners can assist with new or renewal licence applications. For further advice please contact Michelle on 0401870117 or at michelle@chdpartners.com.au