

# THE TURNBULL COALITION TEAM

# CCHQ 2016



27 June 2016

Mr Michael Thorn  
Chief Executive  
Foundation for Alcohol Research & Education (FARE)  
Via email: [glenis.thomas@fare.org.au](mailto:glenis.thomas@fare.org.au)

Dear Mr Thorn

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the views of the Coalition on important issues facing your members. On behalf of the Coalition Members of Parliament and candidates I am pleased to respond to your questionnaire.

Australia's future depends on how well we can continue to grow and shape our economy.

Only the Liberal and National Parties have an **economic plan** to do that and ensure Australia's future.

We have a clear plan to transition the economy from the mining and investment boom to a stronger and more diverse economy.

The key elements of our national economic plan for jobs and growth are:

- An Innovation and Science programme bringing Australian ideas to market. This means greater investment and more jobs and opportunities for our young people;
- A New Defence Industry plan that will secure an advanced defence manufacturing industry in Australia. This will create thousands of new hi-tech, higher paying jobs;
- Export Trade Deals that will generate more than 19,000 new export opportunities. These will create many more jobs for our urban and regional families;
- New Tax Incentives, which will include tax cuts for more small businesses. More than two million businesses can benefit, to deliver more growth and jobs; and
- A Strong New Economy with more than 200,000 jobs expected to be created.

Our national economic plan and management is already paying dividends. Last year our economy continued to grow creating almost 300,000 new jobs, many of them in small business.

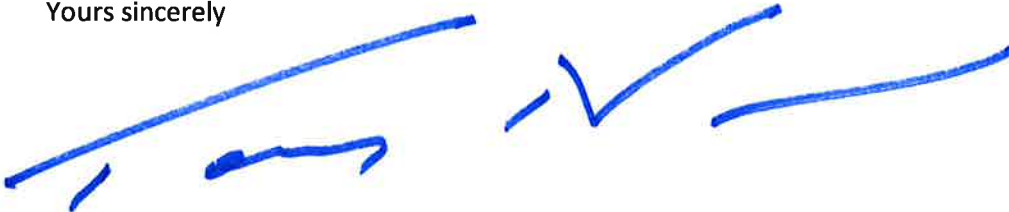
We cannot put economic growth and the jobs that come with it at risk with a return to Labor and their debt and deficits, high taxing, big spending ideas.

Only a Liberal and National Party Government can protect Australia's future.

Once announced, our policies will be available at [www.liberal.org.au](http://www.liberal.org.au) and [www.nationals.org.au](http://www.nationals.org.au).

Thank you for communicating the Coalition's commitments to your members.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, connected strokes. The signature is positioned above the typed name and title.

Tony Nutt  
National Campaign Director

## **COALITION RESPONSE TO FOUNDATION FOR ALCOHOL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION**

A re-elected Coalition Government will continue to invest in preventative health activities targeted at the specific needs of the population.

**1. Does the Liberal Party of Australia acknowledge the significant harms that alcohol contributes to the Australian community and the need to urgently address these harms?**

The Coalition understands the harmful effects of excessive alcohol consumption and we have a range of strategies to reduce these harms, assist people struggling with alcohol addiction and promote responsible drinking.

**2. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support funding States and Territories to develop jurisdiction-specific models of care for Alcohol and Other Drug and family violence services to work collaboratively?**

The Turnbull Government is already working with States and Territories on developing appropriate strategies to reduce the incidence of harmful drinking through the National Alcohol Strategy. The Minister for Rural Health recently reached an agreement with Council of Australian Government (COAG) Ministers to form a high level Ministerial Council on Drugs. One of the first tasks of that Council will be to agree on and ratify the National Alcohol Strategy.

In addition, the Coalition Government funds a range of health sector peak bodies, including preventative health organisations that provide advocacy and assist in the development of policy to reduce the impact of alcohol related harms.

**3. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support training and the provision of funding to AOD services to implement family-centred practice?**

The Turnbull Government recently committed \$241 million to Primary Health Networks (PHNs) for the delivery of alcohol and other drug services in communities across Australia. The funding, which starts rolling out from 1 July 2016, will significantly boost the capacity of drug and alcohol rehabilitation services to deal with increasing demand. PHNs have completed needs assessments and in most cases have already submitted comprehensive work plans to ensure that funding is delivered to the areas of greatest need.

**4. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support piloting a perpetrator programme based on South Dakota's 24/7 Sobriety Project, targeting repeat offenders of alcohol-related family violence?**

The Turnbull Coalition believes all perpetrators must be held to account for their behaviours and that they should have access to interventions that can have a positive impact on future behaviour and actions. The entire justice system, including police, courts and corrective services, is responsible for perpetrator intervention. Effective and consistent treatment of perpetrators is required across

Australia. Last December, COAG agreed to the National Outcome Standards for Perpetrator Interventions to guide and measure results achieved by perpetrator interventions.

We recognise the value of effective perpetrator programmes, particularly in relation to repeat offenders of alcohol-related family violence. The Coalition Government committed \$100 million in new funding in the 2016-17 Budget for the implementation of the Third Action Plan for the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2012 – 2022*. The Third Action Plan will focus on building a world-class perpetrator intervention system.

**5. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support instigating a Government-led review to identify and resolve current failings of alcohol advertising regulation, and introduce effective and equitable regulation across all forms of broadcast and online media?**

The Turnbull Coalition believes it is important to ensure that alcohol is advertised in a responsible manner. To achieve this, alcohol advertising on broadcast platforms must be consistent with the relevant broadcasting industry co-regulatory codes of practice.

Broadcasting services are provided under a co-regulatory legal system established by Parliament where the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* sets an overarching framework for the delivery of broadcasting services. Specific rules relating to programme standards are set by broadcasting sectors in consultation with the public and the Australian Communications and Media Authority. This recognises the importance of ensuring that broadcasting content reflects community standards and provides a means by which the community can formally express its views to broadcasters.

**6. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support phasing out alcohol sponsorship of sporting and cultural events, and the establishment of an Alcohol Marketing Replacement Fund to be funded from the proceeds of reform to alcohol taxation to aid the transition?**

It is important that sports organisations and alcohol companies take their responsibilities to both their participants and the public seriously when considering commercial decisions.

The Alcohol Beverages Advisory Code Scheme (ABAC) has recently undertaken reviews on their Code, operations and governance. These reviews have led to a strengthened Code to better protect children, impose stronger pre-vetting requirements and the appointment of an independent Chair, the Hon Alan Ferguson. The ABAC Panel upheld determinations against a range of promotions in 2014 that were all removed by the advertisers, including the removal of 'Duff Beer' from sale in Australia.

**7. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support funding and implementing a second National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Strategy (FASD) from 2017-18 with action in prevention, diagnosis and management?**

In the 2016-17 Budget, the Turnbull Government announced the *Taking More Action to Prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders* measure with funding of \$10.5 million over four years. This is in addition to the Coalition's investment of over \$9 million to implement the National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Plan. The newly announced measure will fund the creation of:

- a new National FASD Clinical Network to support clinicians at the front line of diagnosis and support for a national FASD online hub;
- the roll out of evidence based models of support for communities battling FASD;
- provision of online and phone base support and information for individuals and families affected by FASD; and
- ongoing support for the FASD Technical Network which was established in 2014 to continue its activities.

**8. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support mandating health warning labels on all alcohol products and point of sale material by 2018?**

Any decision on mandatory alcohol labelling is a decision of the Australia and New Zealand Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation. The Forum is chaired by the Commonwealth Minister for Rural Health and comprises all Australian and New Zealand Ministers responsible for food regulation, and the Australian Local Government Association.

**9. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support funding a nation-wide sustained public education campaign on the harms from alcohol and ways to reduce the risk?**

The Coalition will continue to spend significant amounts of money on public health campaigns, including targeted campaigns which aim to address responsible consumption of alcohol.

**10. Does the Liberal Party of Australia support introducing tax reform to bring wine and cider in line with other alcohol products, and apply a 10 per cent increase to all alcohol excise?**

The extent of alcohol tax changes proposed by the Government in this campaign are contained in the 2016-17 Budget.