

11 February 2018

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To whom it may concern

SUBMISSION TO THE CONSULTATION DRAFT NATIONAL ALCOHOL STRATEGY 2018-2026

The National Alliance for Action on Alcohol (NAAA) and the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) welcome the opportunity to provide a submission to the Consultation Draft National Alcohol Strategy 2018-2026 (Consultation Draft). Please find enclosed NAAA's and FARE's submission.

We are pleased to see that the Council of Australian Governments' Ministerial Drug and Alcohol Forum (MDAF) is taking steps to address the lack of national strategic direction in alcohol policy since 2011. This process provides an important opportunity to finalise and implement a strategy that will prevent and minimise alcohol harm.

NAAA and FARE have taken a pragmatic approach to this submission, focusing on how the Consultation Draft can be strengthened to achieve this. We briefly outlined our approach to this submission at a meeting with the Hon Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health, on 17 January 2018. Our submission identifies four key areas to be incorporated in any future National Alcohol Strategy:

1. Adopt the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020 frame as a model for the new National Alcohol Strategy.
2. Adopt a system of strong accountability measures to monitor progress.
3. Prioritise and commit to implementing specific, evidence-based activities in the first three years.
4. Review progress in implementing the National Alcohol Strategy after the first three years.

We hope you will consider the recommendations outlined in our submission and look forward to the opportunity to discuss this submission with you.

Yours sincerely



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