

# Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restriction

October 2007 to September 2008  
Twelve Month Report

Developed by the Drug and Alcohol Office for the Fitzroy Crossing Alcohol and  
Other Drug Management Committee

March 2009

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The information provided in this report is intended to be a brief overview of the ongoing impact of the liquor restriction introduced for the township of Fitzroy Crossing in October 2007. It is not a detailed examination of the social and business impact of the restriction and offers only limited explanation of some of the more obvious trends.

During the development of this report it became obvious that some of the data needs closer examination and greater explanation. The University of Notre Dame have been contracted to complete a more detailed review of the restriction, including anecdotal feedback and community and business perceptions. This report will be available mid 2009.

There has been no significance testing conducted on the data provided in this report.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 27 September 2007, the Director of Liquor Licensing released his decision on restricting the sale of packaged liquor in Fitzroy Crossing. It was his finding that as of 2 October 2007, the following restriction would be in place for six months:

*The sale of packaged liquor, exceeding a concentration of ethanol in liquor of 2.7 per cent at 20 degrees Celsius, is prohibited to any person, other than a lodger (as defined in Section 3 of the Act).*

On 19 May 2008 the Director of Liquor Licensing extended the restriction indefinitely with an annual review to test its ongoing effectiveness.

There have been two previous reports into the impact of the liquor restrictions in Fitzroy Crossing. Both reports can be found at [www.dao.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.dao.health.wa.gov.au).

1. *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restriction: October to December 2007 Interim Report, Drug and Alcohol Office, February 2008.* This report contained statistical information regarding the impact the restriction had on a variety of services within the Fitzroy Valley three months after implementation.
2. *Fitzroy Valley Liquor Restriction Report: An evaluation of the effects of a six month restriction on take-away alcohol relating to measurable health and social benefits and community perceptions and behaviors, University of Notre Dame, May 2008.* This report contained statistical and anecdotal information regarding the impact of the restriction in the Fitzroy Valley six months after its implementation.

This third report provides statistical information following the first 12 months of the restriction. It does not make any recommendations as to future restrictions or include any anecdotal information from the community or service providers. The University of Notre Dame, as part of their ongoing work in the Fitzroy Valley will continue to collect anecdotal and statistical information regarding the restrictions and report back through annual published reports. The next installment of the Notre Dame study is due for release mid 2009 and will provide more in-depth qualitative and quantitative data and analysis and provide opportunity to clarify issues identified during the gathering of information for this report.

The following is a summary of the key findings from this report.

### **Police** (Fitzroy Crossing Police Sub-district)

When comparing the period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with the period of October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction):

- There was an 18% reduction in the average number of tasks attended per month (133 tasks attended per month pre-restriction and 108 tasks attended per month post-restriction).
- There was a 28% reduction in the average number of alcohol-related tasks attended per month (71 alcohol related tasks attended per month pre-restriction and 51 alcohol-related tasks attended per month post-restriction).
- The ratio of drink driving charges to random breath tests (RBTs) improved from one charge per six RBTs pre-restriction to one charge per 20.5 RBTs post-restriction.
- There was a 23% increase in reported domestic violence incidents post-restriction (87 incidents pre-restriction and 114 post-restriction).

- There was a 20% increase in reported alcohol related domestic violence incidents post-restrictions (74 incidents pre-restriction and 93 incidents post-restriction).

Police and other local service providers have attributed the increase in reported DV cases and reported offences to a number of circumstances. Services are finding that with the higher levels of sobriety within the community, people are becoming less tolerant of domestic violence and other incidents and they are now more prepared to make a report. Community members who would previously not access services are now doing so and this includes police. Police also believe that the current level of reporting is a more accurate reflection of the extent of the issues within the community than prior to the restriction being introduced.

#### **Health Services (Fitzroy Crossing)**

When comparing the period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction):

- There was a 36% reduction in the average number of alcohol-related emergency department (ED) presentations (50.33 presentations a month pre-restriction and 32 presentations a month post-restriction).
- When isolating the busiest periods for the hospital, October to March, there was a 42% reduction in the number of alcohol-related presentations post-restriction (376 presentation pre-restriction and 216 post-restriction)
- Hospital staff report that since the introduction of the restriction, there has been a decrease in the frequency of severe injury presentations to the emergency department.

#### **Health Services (Regional)**

Since the introduction of the liquor restrictions in Fitzroy Crossing there has been an increase in the number of Fitzroy residents reporting to emergency departments in surrounding towns for alcohol related issues.

- For the 12 month period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) the monthly average number of presentations in surrounding hospitals by Fitzroy residents were 10.75 presentations. This increased to 14.75 monthly presentations for the period of October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction).
- For the 12 month period pre-restriction Halls Creek ED averaged 1.1 presentations per month and 1.8 presentations per month post-restriction. Derby ED averaged 3.5 presentation per month pre-restriction and 5.4 presentations post-restriction. Broome ED averaged 6.1 presentations per month pre-restriction and 7.5 presentations post-restriction).

#### **Licensed Premise (Crossing Inn)**

While there has been an increase in the sale of alcohol for on-premise consumption, the decrease in the sale of takeaway alcohol has resulted in an overall decrease in the sale of alcohol from the Crossing Inn.

- 9,360 litres of pure alcohol - July 2007 to September 2007
- 2,129 litres of pure alcohol – October 2007 to December 2007
- 2,044 litres of pure alcohol – January 2008 to March 2008
- 2,845 litres of pure alcohol – April 2008 to June 2008
- 2,079 litres of pure alcohol – July 2008 to September 2008
- Mid strength beer recorded the highest percentage increase in sales for on premise consumption (269% when comparing July 2007 to September 2007 with April 2008)

to June 2008). Ready to Drink's (RDTs) increased 176% (January 2008 to March 2008), light beer increased 71% (April 2008 to June 2008), full strength beer increased 65% (April 2008 to June 2008) and a 63% in wine sales (July 2008 to September 2008).

**General Store (Tarunda Supermarket)**

The data provided allows for comparison between the months of July 2007 and July 2008, August 2007 and August 2008 and September 2007 and September 2008. The dollar values represented in this report are for the sales of meat, fruit and veg, dairy, freezer, grocery foods and bakery only.

- For the month of July there was an 8% increase in total sales post-restriction.
- For the month of August there was a 14% decrease in total sales post-restriction.
- For the month of September there was a 1% decrease in total sales post-restriction.

**Regional Sobering Up Centers (SUC)**

There has not been a discernable increase or decrease in sobering-up centre presentations for the towns of Broome, Derby and Halls Creek when comparing the periods of October 2006 through to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with October 2007 through to September 2008 (post-restriction). When comparing these periods:

- Broome SUC recorded 6% less presentations
- Derby SUC recorded 7% more presentations
- Halls Creek recorded 0.3% less presentations.

The information provided does not identify the place of residence for people using the service. However, managers from each of the SUC reported that they had not seen a notable decrease or increase in Fitzroy Crossing residents using the services since the implementation of the restrictions.

## MAIN REPORT

### 1.0 OVERVIEW

#### 1.1 Purpose

This report was requested by the Fitzroy Valley Alcohol and Other Drug Management Committee in May 2008.

The purpose of the report is to provide statistical information following the introduction of mandated liquor restrictions in the Fitzroy Valley and surrounding services 12 months after implementation. The information in this report includes and adds to the information contained in the first two reports developed on the current Fitzroy Crossing restriction.

1. *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restriction: October to December 2007 Interim Report, Drug and Alcohol Office, February 2008.*
2. *Fitzroy Valley Liquor Restriction Report: An evaluation of the effects of a six month restriction on take-away alcohol relating to measurable health and social benefits and community perceptions and behaviors, University of Notre Dame, May 2008.*

Both reports can be found at [www.dao.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.dao.health.wa.gov.au).

This third report provides statistical information following the first 12 months of the restriction. It does not make any recommendations as to future restrictions or include any anecdotal information from the community or service providers.

The University of Notre Dame, as part of their ongoing work in the Fitzroy Valley will continue to collect anecdotal and statistical information regarding the restrictions and report back through annual published reports. The next installment of the Notre Dame study is due for release mid 2009 and will provide more in-depth qualitative and quantitative data and analysis and provide opportunity to clarify issues identified during the gathering of information for this report.

#### 1.2 Scope

The report provides a snapshot of a range of information provided by local services including:

- Police drink driving statistics, domestic violence reports and total tasking
- Emergency department alcohol-related presentation for Fitzroy Crossing and surrounding hospitals
- Pure alcohol sales data for the Crossing Inn and the Fitzroy River Lodge
- Product sales information for the Tarunda supermarket
- Sobering Up Centre admissions for surrounding communities.

This report does not draw any conclusions or make recommendations regarding the current restrictions.

There has been no significance testing conducted on the data provided in this report. Therefore, caution should be applied when interpreting the results.

### 1.3 Background

#### *Previous voluntary liquor restrictions*

Fitzroy Crossing licensees introduced some voluntary liquor restrictions in May 1999 and April 2003.

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Type of Restriction	Time Period	Conditions
Voluntary (Accord)	May 1999	1. No takeaway packaged liquor prior to 12 noon (except for hotel lodgers)
Voluntary (Accord)	April 2003	2. No liquor sales before 10am each day (except hotel lodgers)
Voluntary (Accord)		1. No takeaway packaged liquor prior to 12 noon (except for hotel lodgers)
Voluntary (Accord)		1. No takeaway liquor before 12 noon on any day
		2. No spirit sales before 4pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and before 6pm on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays or 12 noon on Sundays
		3. No cask wine sales
		4. No 750 ml bottles of beer (king browns)
		5. No sales of fortified wine (port)

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#### *Current mandated liquor restrictions*

On 31 August 2007, formal proceedings were instigated by the Director of Liquor Licensing after consensus could not be achieved by the local parties in reaching an agreement in relation to restricting alcohol sales in an effort to reduce harm within the community.

On 27 September 2007, the Director of Liquor Licensing released his decision on packaged liquor restrictions in relation to the Crossing Inn in Fitzroy Crossing. It was his finding that as of 2 October 2007, the following restriction would be in place for six months:

*The sale of packaged liquor, exceeding a concentration of ethanol in liquor of 2.7 per cent at 20 degrees Celsius, is prohibited to any person, other than a lodger (as defined in Section 3 of the Act).*

On 19 May 2008 the Director of Liquor Licensing extended the restriction indefinitely with an annual review to test its ongoing effectiveness.

The restriction effectively limits the Crossing Inn in Fitzroy Crossing to selling only low strength beer for consumption off the premises. It does not restrict the sale of alcohol to be consumed on the premises, nor does it impact on the sale of alcohol to guests staying at the Crossing Inn. The Fitzroy River Lodge, the only other licensed liquor outlet in Fitzroy Crossing, has a public bar and only sells packaged liquor to house guests.

### 1.4 Methodology

Following the announcement of the indefinite continuation of the restriction, the Fitzroy Valley Alcohol and Other Drug Management Committee (the Committee) requested that the Drug and Alcohol Office (DAO) develop a statistical report which outlined the ongoing impact of the restriction 12 months after its introduction.

Using the same key stakeholders identified in the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restriction: October to December 2007 Interim Report*, DAO staff travelled to the Kimberley and met with key stakeholders to inform them of the intention to develop a 12-month report and to request their assistance and information.

In November 2008; letters were issued to key stakeholders outlining the data required and the time period it would cover. Each stakeholder was asked to provide data broken down

by month, for the periods of January 2008 to September 2008. DAO had comparison data from the previous interim report.

This report will be provided to the University of Notre Dame researchers, who will analyse the information gathered and consider its inclusion in their more complete report due to be completed mid 2009.

### **1.6 Seasonal Trends**

The Fitzroy Valley is subject to two distinct seasons – the Dry Season and the Wet Season.

The Dry Season typically occurs May to September, is the peak time for tourists and when most building construction and road maintenance occurs. The majority of annual events and festivals occur during this time, attracting intra and interstate visitors to the area.

The Wet season occurs typically October to April with most of the rain falling between December and March. During the Wet Season many of the remote communities and stations are cut off from Fitzroy Crossing due to road closures. This can be for a few days at a time and occasionally for a week or more. The Crossing Inn is sometimes cut off from the town and ceases operation when the river crossings become too high.

Many local community members will move into Fitzroy Crossing and other surrounding towns during the Wet Season to ensure that they have regular access to medical facilities and other services. Visiting services to outer lying communities can also be restricted during the height of the Wet Season.

As the major regional centre, Broome has specialist services not found in other towns and attracts a greater number of community members from across the region throughout all times of the year.

## FITZROY VALLEY SERVICE PROVIDERS

### 2.1 Police

WA Police provided a range of information for the period of September 2007 to September 2008 for the Fitzroy Crossing Police Sub-district. Information included random breath tests (RBTs) and resulting drink driving charges, overall domestic violence incidents and alcohol related offences, general tasking and offences, and other alcohol-related tasking and offences.

Due to changes in the manner in which police are collecting and reporting information, it is not possible to compare all data provided for this report with the information presented in the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restrictions: October to December 2007 Interim Report*. Where there is no comparative data, information will be presented for the period of the restriction only.

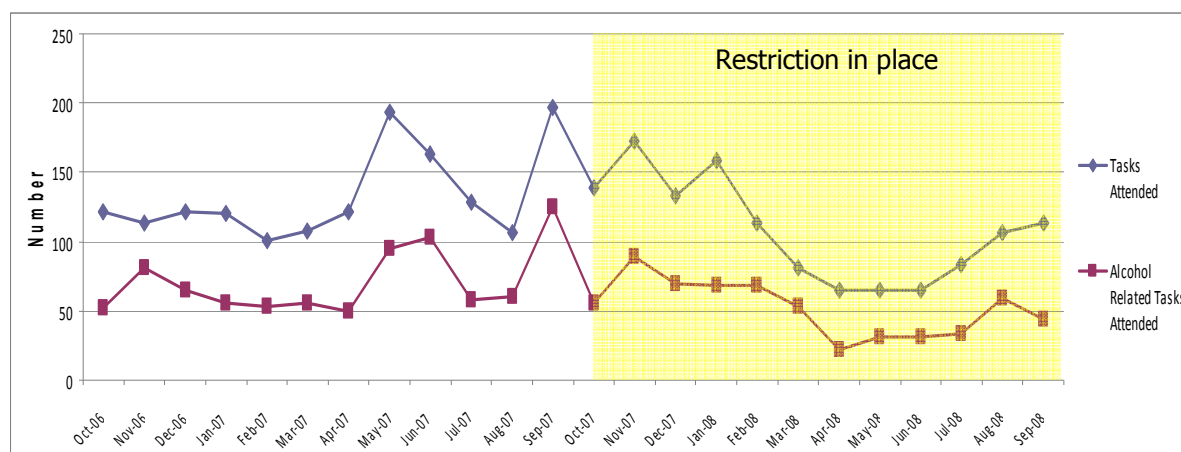
With the recent formation of the Business Intelligence Office within the WA Police, future data will be provided in accordance with national counting rules. The police data within this report is only being compared to previous Fitzroy Crossing data collected in the same manner.

#### General Tasking

Any instance where police are called to attend to a situation by a member of the public or respond to a situation identified whilst on patrol is recorded as a task.

There has been an overall decline in the total number of tasks and the alcohol-related tasks attended by police in the Fitzroy Valley Sub-district when comparing the period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with the period of October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction).

During the 12-month period immediately pre-restriction there was a total of 1,596 tasks attended or which 854 were alcohol-related. These figures reduced to 1,297 tasks attended of which 622 were alcohol-related for the 12-month period post-restriction. There was a slight decrease in the percentage of alcohol-related tasks that made up the total tasks attended for the period post restriction (53% of total tasks were alcohol related pre-restriction and 47% of total tasks were alcohol-related post restriction).



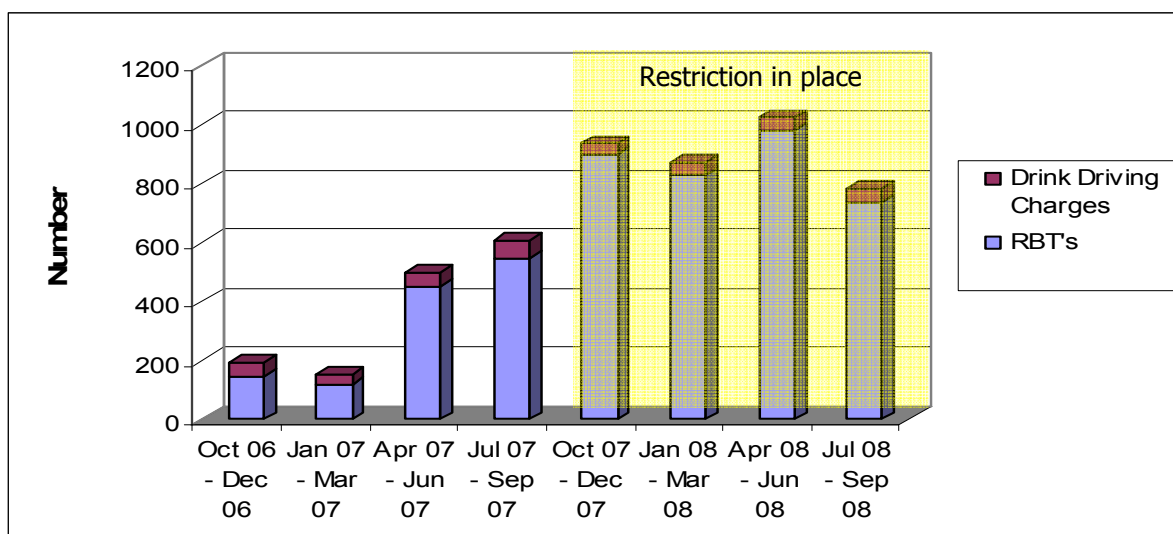
Graph 1: Total tasks attended and alcohol related tasks attended for the Fitzroy Valley Sub-district for the period of October 2006 to September 2008.

When comparing the period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with the period of October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction):

- There was an 18% reduction in the average number of tasks attended per month (133 tasks attended per month pre-restriction and 108 tasks attended per month post-restriction).
- There was a 28% reduction in the average number of alcohol-related tasks attended per month (71 alcohol-related tasks attended per month pre-restriction and 51 alcohol related tasks attended per month post-restriction).

### *Drink Driving*

Since the introduction of the restriction, police have increased the level of random breath testing in the community but have seen a decrease in the number of people being charged with drink driving.



Graph 2: Comparisons of random breath tests and drink driving charges for the period of October 2006 to September 2008 for Fitzroy Crossing.

When comparing the period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with the period of October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction):

- There was a 172% increase in the number of RBTs conducted post-restriction (3445) when compared to pre-restriction (1262).
- There was a 12.5% decrease in the number of drink driving charges resulting from RBTs when comparing pre-restriction (192) to post-restriction (186).
- The ratio of RBTs to drink driving charges for the 12 month period pre-restriction was 6.1:1. This improved to 20.5:1 for the 12 month period post-restriction.

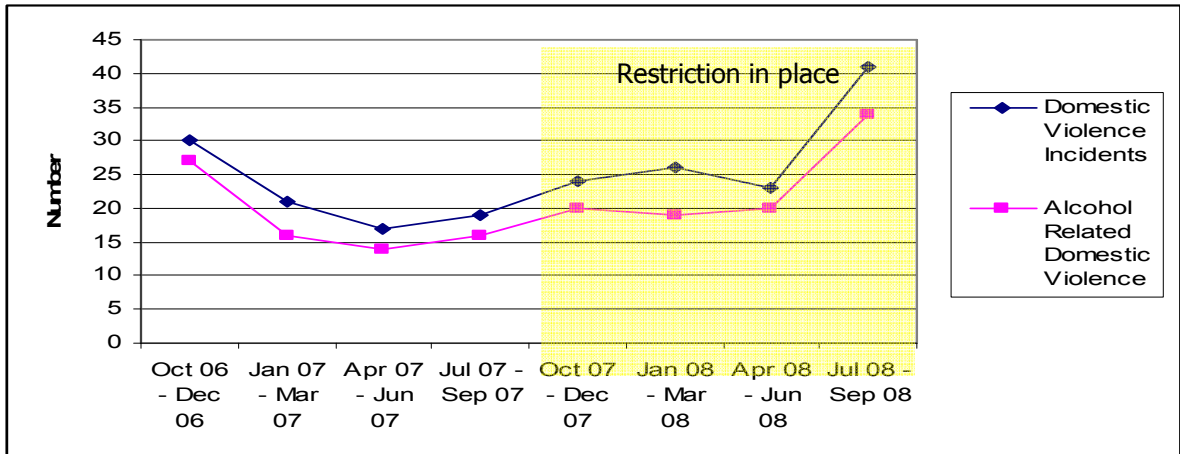
### *Domestic Violence*

The manner in which police record alcohol-related domestic violence (DV) has changed since the implementation of the alcohol restriction in Fitzroy Crossing. The new process was applied to data used in the previous interim report to obtain comparable results for the period of 12 months immediately prior to the implementation of the restriction and 12 months post.

When comparing the period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction):

- There was a 23% increase in reported DV incidents post-restriction (87 incidents pre-restriction and 114 post-restriction).

- There was a 20% increase in reported alcohol related DV incidents post-restrictions (74 incidents pre-restriction and 93 incidents post-restriction).



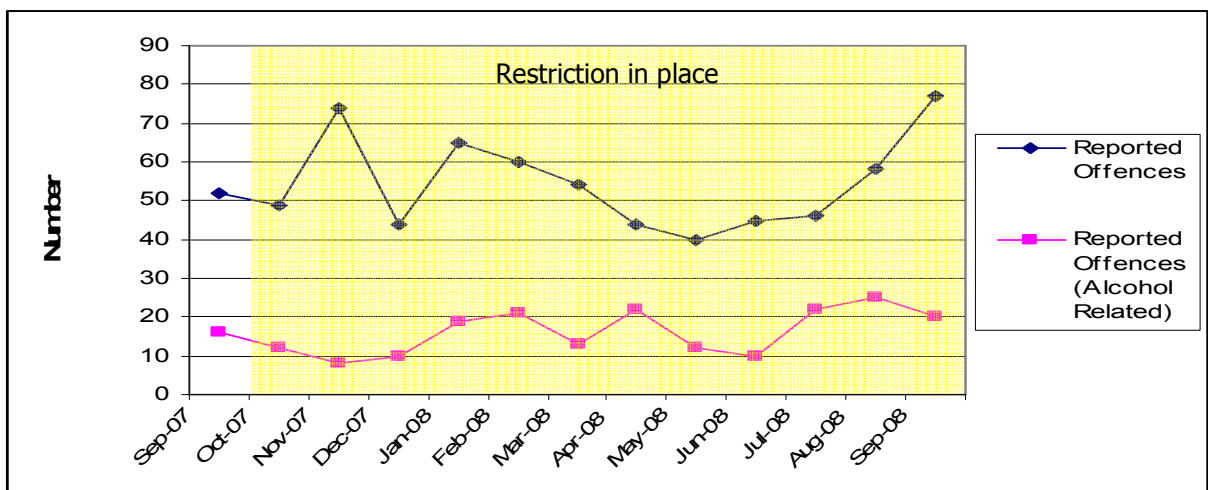
Graph 3: Reported alcohol related domestic violence and all reported domestic violence incidents for the Fitzroy Valley for October 2006 to September 2008.

The period of October 2006 to December 2006 pre-restriction was the only period where DV and alcohol-related DV reports were lower than the comparable period post-restriction. For all other periods covered in this report there was an increase in reported cases.

- For the period of January 2008 to March 2008 there were 3 more alcohol-related DV reports compared to the same period in 2007.
- For the period of April 2008 to June 2008 there were 6 more alcohol-related DV reports compared to the same period in 2007.
- For the period of July 2008 to September 2008 there were 18 more alcohol-related DV reports compared to the same period in 2007.

### Reported Offences

Since the implementation of the restriction in October 2007 to September 2008 there have been a total of 708 reported offences in the Fitzroy Crossing Police Sub-district, of which 30% (210) were alcohol-related.



Graph 4: Number of reported alcohol related offences and total reported offences for the Fitzroy Police Sub-district for September 2007 to September 2008.

There does not appear to be any direct link between the levels of alcohol-related offences and total offences. For example, the month of November 2007 recorded one of the

highest levels of reported offences (74) yet had the lowest level of alcohol-related offences (8).

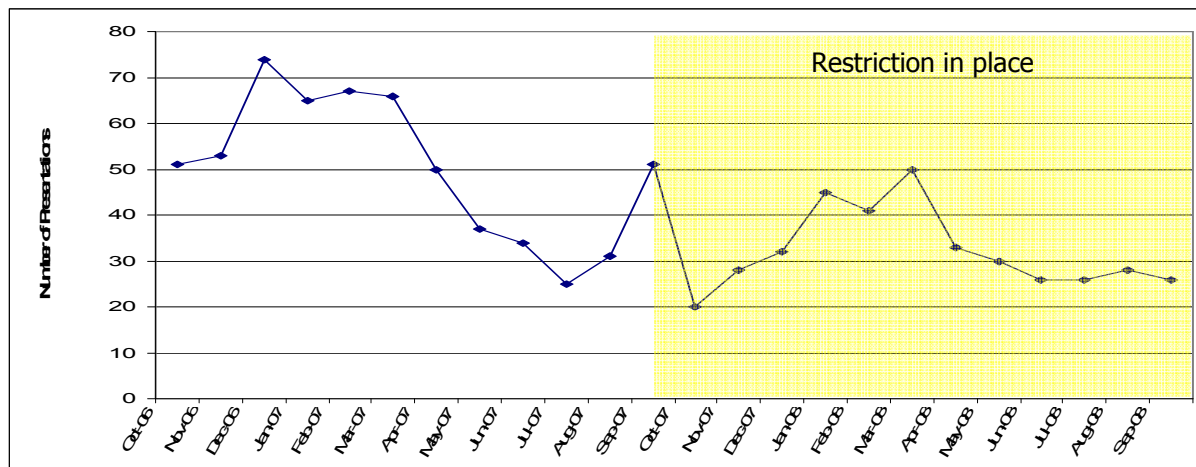
Police and other local service providers have attributed the increase in reported DV cases and reported offences to a number of circumstances. Services are finding that with the higher levels of sobriety within the community, people are becoming less tolerant of domestic violence and other incidents. They are now more prepared to make a report. Community members who would previously not access services, including police are now doing so. Police also believe that the current level of reporting is a more accurate reflection of the extent of the problem within the community than the understating of offences that occurred prior to the restriction.

## 2.2 Health Services

WA Country Health Services provided emergency department (ED) data for the Fitzroy Crossing Hospital from January 2008 to September 2008 in monthly blocks. This information adds to the previous information provided for the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restrictions: October to December 2007 Interim Report*.

Hospital staff report that since the introduction of the restriction, there has been a decrease in the frequency of severe injury presentations to the ED but there are still occasions when severe alcohol-related presentations do occur.

It is also worth noting that the hospital will soon be 100% staffed by permanent staff. This is a significant change from the recent past when as much as 60% of the nursing staff was short-term agency positions. Hospital administration believe that the significant improvement in working conditions brought on by the new hospital and the changing nature of presentations has made it easier to recruit and retain staff.



Graph 5: Alcohol related ED presentations (MCD 20 & 21) for Fitzroy Crossing Residents at the Fitzroy Crossing Hospital for the period of October 2006 to September 2008.

The average number of presentations made by Fitzroy Crossing residents to the ED for alcohol-related incidents for the 12 month period post-restriction is lower than the 12 month period pre-restriction. When comparing the two periods there was a decline in presentations for each month with the exception of July (25 presentations in 2007 and 26 in 2008). The lowest level of presentation for the reportable period is October 2007 (20 presentations) and highest is December 2006 (74 presentations). The greatest difference in presentations was for the month of December (74 presentations pre-restriction and 45 presentations post-restriction).

When comparing the period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction):

- There was a 36% reduction in the average number of alcohol related ED presentations (50.33 presentations a month pre-restriction and 32 presentations a month post-restriction).

It is possible to notice a seasonal trend developing. In the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restriction: October to December 2007 Interim Report* hospital staff commented that their busiest period is during the Wet Season as people come into town from the surrounding communities. There was an increase in presentations from October 2006 to March 2007 and October 2007 to March 2008. However, in the period post-restriction the increase started from a much lower base and peaked at a much lower high.

- When isolating the busiest periods for the hospital, October to March, there was a 42% reduction in the number of alcohol related presentations post-restriction (376 presentations pre-restriction and 216 post-restriction).

### 2.3 Licensed Venues

There are two active liquor licenses in Fitzroy Crossing, The Crossing Inn and the Fitzroy River Lodge. The restriction effectively limits the Crossing Inn to selling only low strength beer for consumption off the premises. It does not restrict the sale of alcohol to be consumed on premises, nor does it impact on the sale of alcohol to guests staying in the accommodation provided at the Crossing Inn. The Fitzroy River Lodge has a public bar and only sells packaged liquor to house guests.

Since the implementation of the current restriction, the licensee of the Crossing Inn is required to collect and provide a detailed breakdown of alcohol sales. This is not the case for the time prior to the restriction or for the Fitzroy River Lodge. The information provided by the Crossing Inn for the period prior to the restriction and by the Fitzroy River Lodge is based on sales figures kept by the licensee and stock orders of the different alcohol types.

The Crossing Inn provided sales data for the period of January 2008 to September 2008 in the form of litres of alcoholic beverage sold by type (beer, wine and spirits). The Fitzroy River Lodge provided information for the same period in the form of litres of alcohol beverage sold by type (beer, wine and spirits). This information adds to the previous information provided by the licensed venues for the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restrictions: October to December 2007 Interim Report*.

In order to show the amounts of pure alcohol (as opposed to the total amount of the beverage) being sold from the venues, the figures provided were converted into pure alcohol amounts using the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) standards.

Alcohol Type	% Alcohol Volume	Alcohol Type	% Alcohol Volume
Full strength beer	5%	Wine	12.5%
Mid strength beer	3.5%	Spirits	40%
Light strength beer	2.7%	RTDs *	5%

For example:

Total volume of full strength beer sold = 5,000 litres

Pure alcohol sold = 5,000 x 5% = 250 litre of pure alcohol

- \* RTDs – Ready to Drink premixed alcoholic beverages

### *The Crossing Inn*

As expected, there has been a significant decrease in the amount of takeaway alcohol sold through the Crossing Inn. When comparing the period of July 2007 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with July 2008 to September 2008 (post-restriction) there has been a 91% reduction in the amount of pure takeaway alcohol sold.

<b>Crossing Inn Takeaway Liquor Sales Data – Pure Alcohol</b>					
	3 month period prior to restriction	Restriction in place	Restriction in place	Restriction in place	Restriction in place
	Jul 07 – Sep 07	Oct 07 – Dec 07	Jan 08 – Mar 08	Apr 08 – Jun 08	Jul 08 – Sep 08
Full Strength Beer	6685 L	59.65 L	15.9 L	25 L	35.9 L
Mid Strength Beer	642 L	28.74 L	16.8 L	19 L	10.64 L
Light Beer	55 L	864.61 L	720.1 L	936.7 L	678.4 L
Spirits	1044 L	12.80 L	4.4 L	4 L	3.6 L
RTDs	111 L	1.45 L	5.1 L	2.25 L	4.25 L
Wine	4 L	0 L	0 L	0 L	0 L
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8541 L</b>	<b>949.25 L</b>	<b>762.3 L</b>	<b>986.95 L</b>	<b>732.79 L</b>

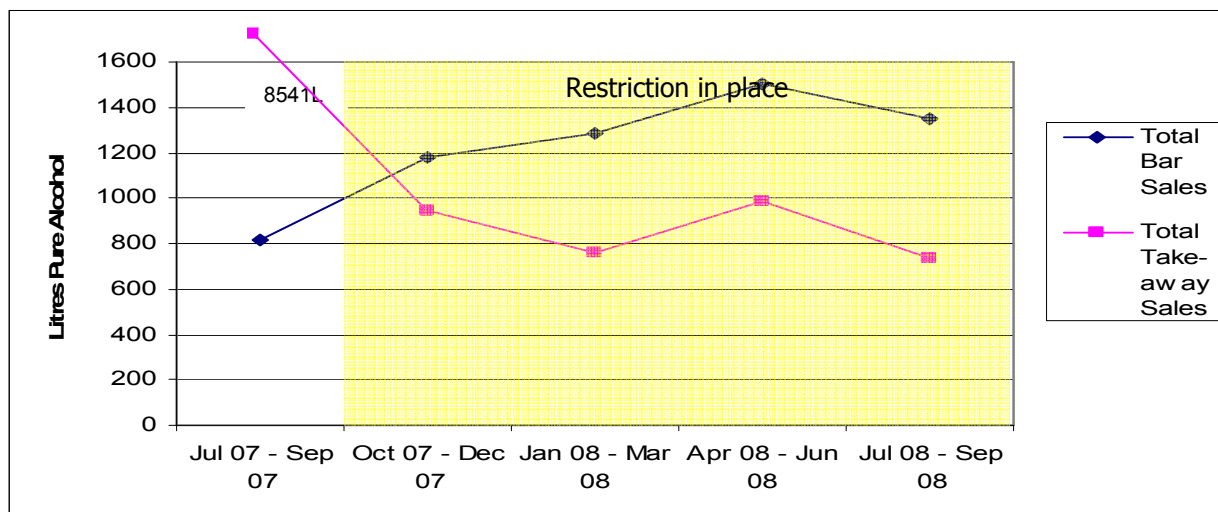
Table 1: Crossing Inn takeaway liquor sales data (pure alcohol) for the period of July 2007 to September 2008.

<b>Crossing Inn Consumption on Premises Sales Data – Pure Alcohol</b>					
	3 month period prior to restriction	Restriction in place	Restriction in place	Restriction in place	Restriction in place
	Jul 07 – Sep 07	Oct 07 – Dec 07	Jan 08 – Mar 08	Apr 08 – Jun 08	Jul 08 – Sep 08
Full Strength Beer	653 L	867.3 L	902 L	1082 L	968.9 L
Mid Strength Beer	65 L	167.9 L	209.3 L	240.7 L	240.3 L
Light Beer	6 L	2.7 L	2 L	10.3 L	2.8 L
Spirits	22 L	14.8 L	8.8 L	9.6 L	11.6 L
RTDs	56 L	116.8 L	154.8 L	132.5 L	96.3 L
Wine	17 L	10.6 L	5.5 L	24.7 L	27.7 L
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>819 L</b>	<b>1180.1 L</b>	<b>1282.4 L</b>	<b>1499.8 L</b>	<b>1347.6 L</b>

Table 2: Crossing Inn consumption on premises sales data (pure alcohol) for the period of July 2007 to September 2008.

On premises alcohol sales have continued to increase since the introduction of the restriction, peaking during the period of April 2008 to June 2008 at 1499.8L pure alcohol.

- Mid strength beer recorded a 269% increase in on-premise sales (when comparing July 2007 to September 2007 with April 2008 to June 2008). RTDs increased 176% (January 2008 to March 2008), light beer increased 71% (April 2008 to June 2008), full strength beer increased 65% (April 2008 to June 2008) and a 63% in wine sales (July 2008 to September 2008).
- Spirits were the only alcohol that showed a decrease in bar sales for the period of the report.



Graph 6: Crossing Inn total alcohol sales (pure alcohol) for the period of July 2007 to September 2008.

While there has been an increase in the sale of alcohol for on-premise consumption, the decrease in the sale of takeaway alcohol has resulted in an overall decrease in the sale of alcohol from the Crossing Inn during the period of the restriction when compared to the three month period immediately prior to the introduction of the restriction.

- 9,360 litres of pure alcohol - July 2007 to September 2007
- 2,129 litres of pure alcohol – October 2007 to December 2007
- 2,044 litres of pure alcohol – January 2008 to March 2008
- 2,845 litres of pure alcohol – April 2008 to June 2008
- 2,079 litres of pure alcohol – July 2008 to September 2008

#### The Fitzroy River Lodge

The data provided by the Fitzroy River Lodge for 2008 includes packaged liquor sales to house guests, which was not available for the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restrictions: October to December 2007 Interim Report*. While this information is included in this report it is not compared to any previous data.

<b>Fitzroy River Lodge Consumption on Premises Sales Data – Pure Alcohol</b>					
	Prior to restriction	Restriction in place	Restriction in place	Restriction in place	Restriction in place
	Oct 06 – Dec 06	Oct 07 – Dec 07	Jan 08 – Mar 08	Apr 08 – Jun 08	Jul 08 – Sep 08
Full Strength Beer	228 L	328 L	190.8 L	275.4 L	393.2 L
Mid Strength Beer	39.9 L	57.4 L	33.4 L	48.2 L	68.8 L
Spirits	176 L	260 L	126.5 L	132.4 L	165.3 L
Wine	100 L	143.7 L	32.4 L	214.7 L	265.2 L
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>543.9 L</b>	<b>789.1 L</b>	<b>383.1 L</b>	<b>670.7 L</b>	<b>892.5 L</b>

Table 3: Fitzroy River Lodge consumption on premises sales data (pure alcohol) for the period of October to December 2006 and October 2007 to September 2008.

The Fitzroy River Lodge is the largest accommodation provider in Fitzroy Crossing and its patronage is predominately visiting services and tourists. On premise alcohol sales are influenced by seasonal trends with the lowest recorded sales for the Fitzroy River Lodge being January to March for the reported period. Sales figures for the reported period increase at the start of the tourist season, April/May, and peak during July/August.

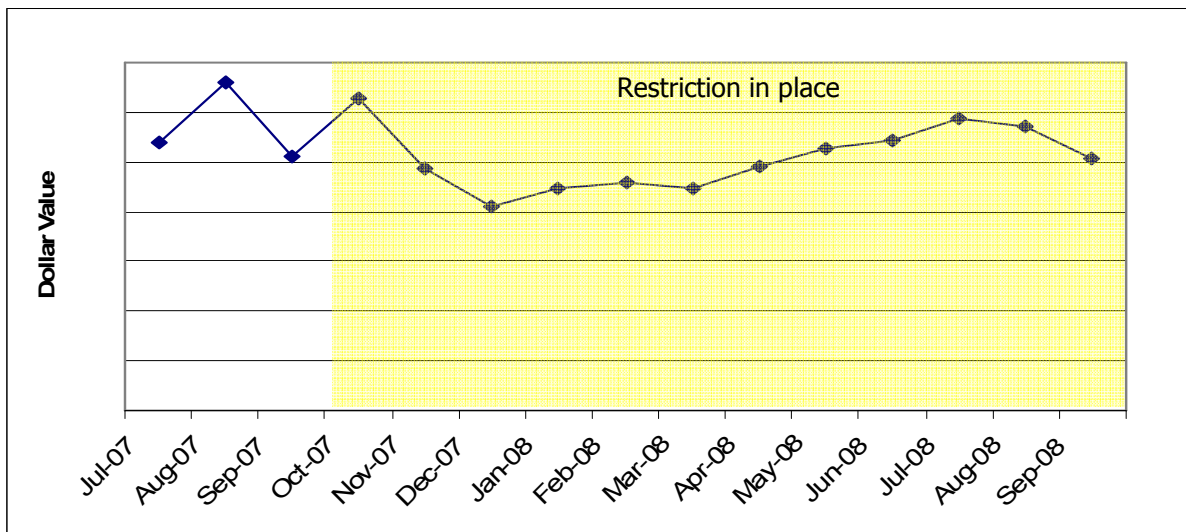
<b>Fitzroy River Lodge Takeaway Sales Data – Pure Alcohol</b>					
	Prior to restriction Oct 06 – Dec 06	Restriction in place Oct 07 – Dec 07	Restriction in place Jan 08 – Mar 08	Restriction in place Apr 08 – Jun 08	Restriction in place Jul 08 – Sep 08
Full Strength Beer	NA	NA	81.2 L	139.4 L	88.8 L
Mid Strength Beer	NA	NA	14.2 L	24.4 L	15.5 L
Spirits	NA	NA	16.3 L	19 L	14.7 L
Wine	NA	NA	9 L	9.7 L	9.2 L
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>120.7 L</b>	<b>192.5 L</b>	<b>128.2 L</b>

Table 4: Fitzroy River Lodge takeaway sales data (pure alcohol) for the period of January 2008 to September 2008.

## 2.4 Supermarket

The Tarunda Supermarket provided sales data for the period of January 2008 to September 2008 by month and separated into major item categories. This information adds to the previous information provided by the licensed venues for the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restrictions: October to December 2007 Interim Report*.

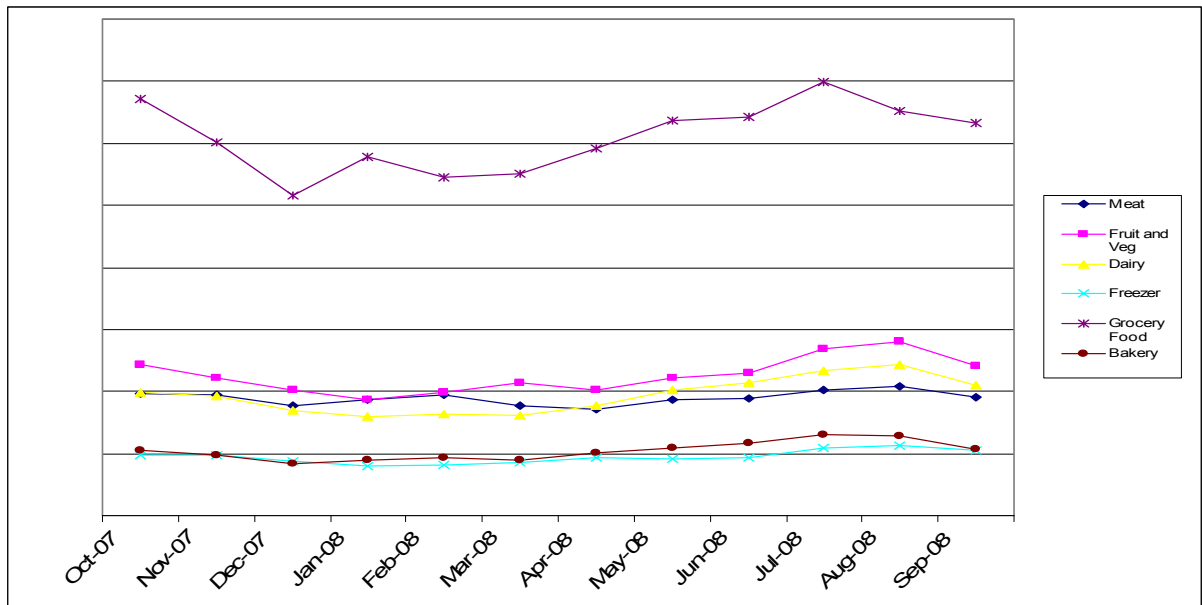
The dollar values reported in the graph below is the monthly total of meat, fruit and veg, dairy, freezer, grocery foods and bakery.



Graph 7: Tarunda Supermarket total sales figures for the period of July 2007 to September 2008

The data provided allows for comparison between the months of July 2007 and July 2008, August 2007 and August 2008 and September 2007 and September 2008.

- For the month of July there was an 8% increase in total sales post-restriction.
- For the month of August there was a 14% decrease in total sales post-restriction.
- For the month of September there was a 1% decrease in total sales post-restriction.



Graph 8: Tarunda Supermarket sales figures by department for the period of October 2007 to September 2008

It is possible to see a seasonal trend developing in the sales data, with sales figures dropping over the November to January/February and then steadily increasing as the tourist/Dry Season starts.

Individual category sales figures follow a common pattern, with lowest sales figures recorded during December and January and the highest recorded during the peak tourist/Dry Season months July and August.

### 3.0 KIMBERLEY SERVICE PROVIDERS

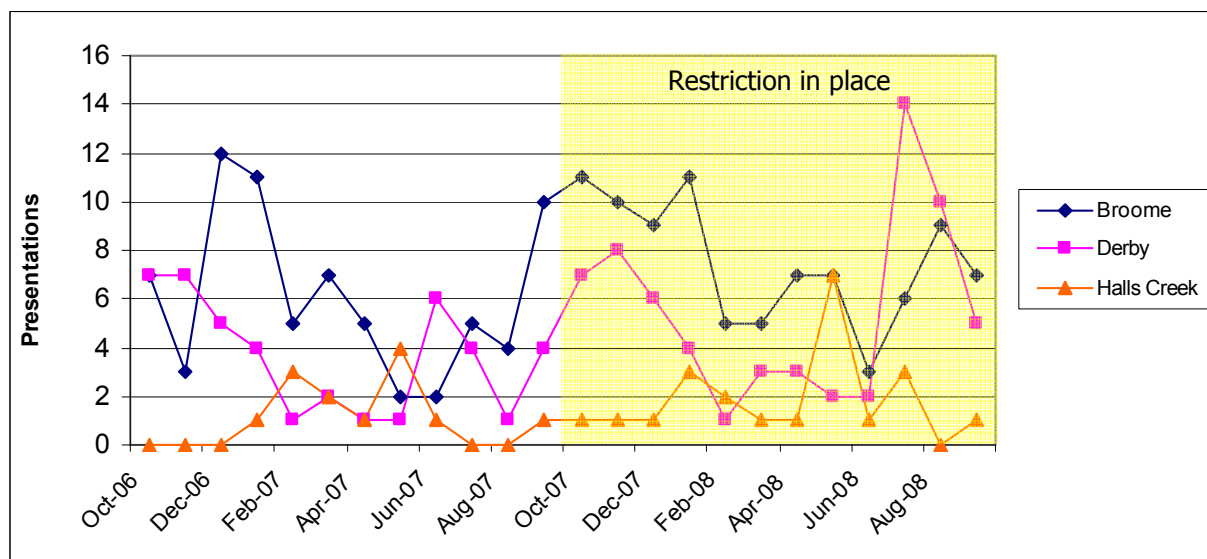
#### 3.1 Health

WA Country Health Services (WACHS) provided Emergency Department (ED) admissions data for Fitzroy Crossing residents attending Broome, Derby and Halls Creek Regional Hospitals for the period of January 2008 to September 2008. This information adds to the previous information provided for the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restrictions: October to December 2007 Interim Report*.

Since the introduction of the liquor restrictions in Fitzroy Crossing there has been an increase in the number of Fitzroy residents reporting to emergency departments in surrounding towns for alcohol-related issues:

- For the 12 month period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) the monthly average number of presentations in surrounding hospitals by Fitzroy residents were 10.75 presentations. This increased to 14.75 monthly presentations for the period of October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction).
- For the 12 month period pre-restriction Halls Creek ED averaged 1.1 presentations per month and 1.8 presentations per month post-restriction. Derby ED averaged 3.5 presentation per month pre-restriction and 5.4 presentations post-restriction. Broome ED averaged 6.1 presentations per month pre-restriction and 7.5 presentations post-restriction).

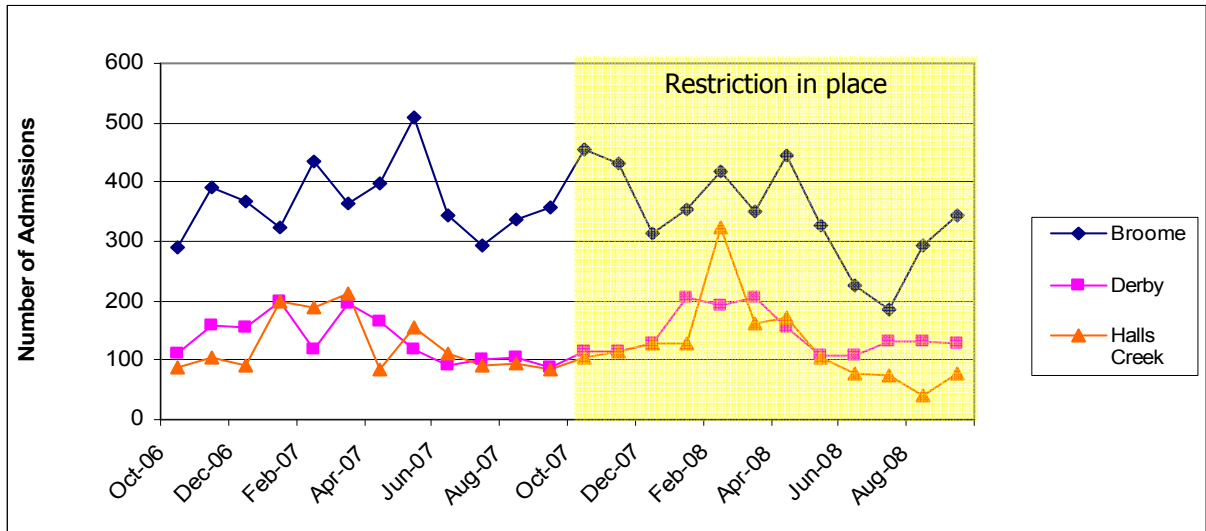
The net result for all emergency department alcohol-related presentations for Fitzroy Crossing residents (including presentations to the Fitzroy Crossing ED) is a 23% reduction when comparing the period of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction 733 presentations) with October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction 562 presentations).



Graph 9: Alcohol-related presentations (MCD 20 & 21) for Fitzroy residents in the ED of Broome, Derby and Halls Creek Hospitals for the period of October 2006 to September 2008.

#### 3.2 Sobering Up Centre Admissions for Surrounding Communities

Sobering-Up Centres (SUC) in the Kimberley towns of Broome, Derby and Halls Creek provided admission data for the period of January 2008 to September 2008 by monthly totals. This information adds to the previous information provided for the *Fitzroy Crossing Liquor Restrictions: October to December 2007 Interim Report*. The Fitzroy Crossing SUC ceased operating as a SUC in early March 2007.



Graph 10: Sobering-Up Centre Admissions for Broome, Derby and Halls Creek for the period of October 2006 to September 2007.

There has not been a discernable increase or decrease in sobering-up centre presentations for the towns of Broome, Derby and Halls Creek when comparing the periods of October 2006 to September 2007 (pre-restriction) with October 2007 to September 2008 (post-restriction). When comparing these periods:

- Broome SUC recorded 6% less presentations
- Derby SUC recorded 7% more presentations
- Halls Creek recorded 0.3% less presentations.

The information provided does not identify the place of residence for people using the service. However, managers from each of the SUC reported that they had not seen a notable decrease or increase in Fitzroy Crossing residents using the services since the implementation of the restrictions.