

Suzanna Sheed MP

Phone: (03) 5831 6944

Fax: (03) 5831 6836

5 Vaughan Street

Shepparton Vic 3630

suzanna.sheed@parliament.vic.gov.au

**State Member of Parliament for
Shepparton District**

Media Release

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Sheed cheers good news for Licensed Brewery Producers

Independent Member for Shepparton District Suzanna Sheed has welcomed the news that licensed brewery producers will now be able to access support under the Licenced Hospitality Venue Fund.

Ms Sheed raised the matter with the Victorian Government seeking immediate action to enable our local licensed brewery producers to access much needed support via the governments fund which had excluded those with a Producer's Licence.

"I've had licensed brewery producers from across the Shepparton District contact my office telling me they have not been able to access funding support under the Licenced Hospitality Venue Fund established by the Victorian State Government," Ms Sheed said.

"It appears to have been simply an oversight resulting in the guidelines not reflecting how many of our Brewery Producer's Licence holders operate a hospitality component in their business making many of our licensed brewery producers ineligible," she said.

Breweries that operate hospitality components but have a separate General Restaurant on similar license were eligible for the available funds, but those with identical business models, operating their hospitality component on a Producer's Licence were not eligible.

Ms Sheed said she had spoken with the owners of the Shepparton Brewery and Tallis Winery at Dookie. She said there are several other businesses in the same capacity operating under a Producer's Licence in the Shepparton District electorate.

"It's great news our licensed brewers have now been extended this much needed and important support that was already afforded to those who operate within the hospitality sector hard hit by COVID-19."

ENDS

Media contact

Jacqui Hawkins 0403 657 267 | jacqui.hawkins@parliament.vic.gov.au