

Being intoxicated in public is no longer a crime

Police cannot arrest you, lock you up or fine you just because you are intoxicated in public.

Police can...

- Help you contact a friend or relative.
- Help you access support from an Aboriginal health response team with your consent, or help you get home, get to a place of safety, or go to a sobering centre if there is one available.
- Respond to calls from the public or approach a person who is intoxicated in public while they are on patrol.
- Police still have powers to question, arrest and detain you for other reasons. They can also issue a 'move on' direction.

Where can I get legal support ?

If you are arrested, fined, or issued with a summons or notice to appear you should **call VALS** for legal assistance.

Mob can call VALS on **1800 064 865** to speak to a lawyer for free.

If you are intoxicated while you are in **police custody** you can ask to speak with VALS' Custody Notification Service. It is important that you tell police and VALS if you are intoxicated so we can make sure you are safe.



Where can I get health support ?

If you or someone else needs **emergency medical care** you should **call an ambulance** on **000**.

If you need **urgent health support** but not an ambulance, you can call **000** and tell the operator you or someone you are with is intoxicated in public.

The operator will transfer you to the VAHS Centralised Service. The VAHS team can do an assessment over the phone and put you in contact with support services or give you health information.

Some regions in Victoria have a dedicated Aboriginal health response team who can help Mob get home or to safe place place. Aboriginal health response teams aren't available in every region yet, but VAHS may be able to provide advice and information over the phone if you contact them through the VAHS Centralised Service by calling **000**.

**If you need legal help you can
call VALS on **1800 064 856**
for a yarn**

**Find out more about the
public intoxication reforms
and your rights by scanning
the QR code**

