

# McGowan backs late Sunday drink reform

**JOE SPAGNOLO**

LABOR leader Mark McGowan has promised to increase trading hours for bars and hotels on a Sunday nights if he becomes Premier.

Mr McGowan, who ran the state's alcohol policy as racing and gaming minister in 2006 under the then Labor government, said yesterday it was time to modernise Perth.

"As Premier I will embrace further changes to build on the reform we put in place in 2006 to create small bars and liven up our hospitality industry," Mr McGowan said.

"I support Sunday trading being the same as any other night's trading. That would mean bars and hotels being

able to open until midnight (instead of 10pm). "It doesn't make sense in the modern world, where people often work on Sundays, for there not to be the opportunities for them to socialise as other people do on other evenings."

Mr McGowan said the law change would be a significant boon for the tourism industry.

An independent review of our state's liquor laws, commissioned by Racing and Gaming Minister Terry Waldron in December 2012, was released this week.

The findings of the 270-page review recommended 141 changes to the state's liquor laws, including tough new laws which would make it an offence to supply alcohol to

underage children without parental permission. But the review recommended against extending trading on Sunday.

Mr McGowan said Labor supported secondary supply laws. He also called for "hard-hitting education campaigns in schools and social media" to educate children about the dangers of alcohol abuse.

Earlier this week Liquor Minister Terry Waldron said he would not comment on specific recommendations until he had further consultation with stakeholders. Several Liberal MPs, including John McGrath, said they support extended Sunday trading hours.

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**Last-chance McGowan:  
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