



## **POLICY ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS - DECEMBER 1997**

The University of Newcastle recognises that alcohol and other drug misuse is a social and health problem which is amenable to prevention, and appropriate diagnosis and treatment.

This policy on alcohol and other drugs has been developed as part of an overall commitment to the health, safety and welfare of staff and the health and safety of students. It also recognises the need for effective and consistent action, while striking a proper balance between work, study, privacy and concern for the individual.

In implementing the policy, the University is committed to:

- ensuring that staff and students are well informed about the problems caused by misuse of alcohol and other drugs
- endorsing regulations which recognise the legal and social obligations in serving alcohol
- promoting a responsible attitude towards the use of alcohol in the University community
- addressing its responsibilities under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (1983) to provide a safe environment for staff and visitors.
- addressing problems which arise from abuse of alcohol and other drugs
- ensuring the availability of a confidential and non-judgemental treatment response for staff and students with alcohol or drug related problems

The University endorses the 'National Health Policy on Alcohol in Australia' 1989 as adopted by the Australian Government's Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy.

For implementation of this policy, reference should be made to the document entitled "[Guidelines and Regulations for Implementation of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy](#)".

This policy will be subject to review in 12 months in the light of experience gained during that period.