



25 July 2017

Dr G Faunce
Department of Industry
Liquor & Gaming NSW
GPO Box 7060
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Contact: Gareth Curtis
Our Ref: DOC2017/039911
Your Ref:

Dear Dr Faunce,

Stakeholder Consultation on Community Impact Statement Requirements

I refer to your request for feedback with respect to the Discussion Paper – 'Evaluation of the Community Impact Statement requirement for liquor licence applications', and comments provided by Council in the teleconference held on Friday 7 July 2017.

It is acknowledged that the objective of the discussion paper is to establish a streamlined process involving all stakeholders and reduce the cost and complication involved in assessing community impact for the purposes of liquor licencing.

Further to the teleconference of 7 July 2017, Council would confirm the following comments with respect to the discussion paper:

- Council presently has an adopted consultation protocol with the Hunter Local Area Command of the NSW Police Force for the consideration of development applications for the establishment of new licenced premises or alterations and additions to existing licenced premises. The referral advice provided by NSW Police is an important consideration in the determination of development applications having regard to likely community impact.
- Council's Development Control Plan, 2011 requires applicants for new or extensions to existing licenced premises to consider social impact and crime prevention in making a development application to Council.
- Chapter C.8 of Cessnock DCP, 2011 requires the preparation of either a Social Impact Comment or Social Impact Assessment prepared by a suitably qualified person, dependent upon the scale of the proposal. A sound Social Impact Assessment involves consulting with stakeholders, understanding the profile and needs of the community, along with identifying and mitigating the potential social consequences which could be attributed to the development.
- Council acknowledges the intention to introduce a requirement through the licencing process to produce a Community Impact Statement (CIS), however this would overlap with Council's adopted Police consultation protocol and the social

impact assessment and crime prevention through environmental design guidelines currently in operation. Given the positive feedback from the community and acceptance by the development industry of the requirements to date, it is unlikely that Council would seek to remove these provisions under the existing planning framework.

- The development application process currently in place will have the benefit of informing any Community Impact Statement (CIS) made in the course of a liquor licencing application for premises with development consent. The proponents will have engaged with the affected community and identified any social issues, prior to the licence application which will assist with the completion of the CIS.

Council appreciates the opportunity to comment on the discussion paper and should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Council's Development Services Manager, Janine McCarthy on phone 02 4993 4254 or via email janine.mccarthy@cessnock.nsw.gov.au

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gareth Curtis', written in a cursive style.

Gareth Curtis
Director Planning and Environment