2 February 2018
Mr. Jonathan Horton QC
The Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority
PO Box 8325
PARRAMATTA WESTFIELD NSW 2150

Dear Mr Horton

SUBMISSION TO THE *NEWCASTLE CBD LIQUOR LICENCE CONDITIONS REVIEW*

Prior to the introduction of the 'Newcastle Conditions', the level of alcohol related violence and anti-social behaviour in some areas of Newcastle had reached levels that were quite unacceptable to the community of Newcastle. Residents no longer felt safe to be on the streets at night in significant areas of the city; businesses were regularly vandalised; police, ambulance and Emergency Departments were dealing with what seemed to be an endless flow of alcohol related violence and serious injuries.

Evaluation of the trial of the 'Newcastle Conditions' clearly shows a significant reduction in alcohol related violence. Police, ambulance and Emergency Department staff have seen a significant improvement, and the community again feels safe to walk in those parts of the city at night.

Removal of the current licencing restrictions is not in the best interests of the community. Arguably they should, in fact, be extended to include Beaumont St. Hamilton which remains an area with an unacceptably high level of alcohol related violence.

Newcastle City Council has not undertaken any public consultation on this matter and I do not believe that its position represents the view of the broader community.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Kevin Sweeney

MB.BS, DA(UK), DipRACOG, FRACGP, FAICD

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