

Department
of Industry

Newcastle Review <newcastle.review@ilga.nsw.gov.au>

ILGA Review Newcastle 210118

Peter Saul [REDACTED]
To: newcastle.review@ilga.nsw.gov.au

Wed, Feb 7, 2018 at 3:56 PM

6th 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

I am a resident in an inner city area with two liquor outlets within 50 metres of my house. In the past this suburb, Newcastle East, was a common venue for late night drunken activity, both in motor cars and on foot. I am on record as having written to the local Police Superintendent to report several instances of vandalism and early hours street racing in the late 90's. It seemed that many inebriated Novocastrian revellers headed for the beachside suburbs in the early hours, and this had become almost a tradition. The past decade saw much improvement - families have moved back into this area, and small businesses and markets have thrived. There is no doubt in my mind that some of this rehabilitation of the East End was facilitated by the licensing changes known as the Newcastle Conditions.

Recent decisions by our local council - to bring street racing to Newcastle in the form of Supercars, and apparently to support the re-establishment of late night drinking - will undoubtedly encourage the return of drink driving and reckless early hours behaviour so well-known to us from the past. At a time when there is so much hand-wringing about road fatalities the wish to restore this defies belief.

As an intensive care specialist I have spent my working life dealing with the fallout from alcohol-fuelled recklessness. More alcohol for longer will inevitably lead to more trauma.

I urge the ILGA to retain the current conditions, and not to undo the gains we have made in the past decade for the sake of supporting an industry that occupies the low moral ground.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr) Peter Saul

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