

***Dr Roger Przybylski***  
***(MB BS, FRACGP)***

*Adamstown Clinic*

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4th 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**

This is a submission to the *Newcastle CBD Liquor Licence Conditions Review*.

I am a medical practitioner working in private general practice in Adamstown and at the GP Access After Hours Clinic, John Hunter Hospital (run by Hunter Primary Care).

I have worked at the above locations since 2003, and am well aware of the level of alcohol related harms in Newcastle prior to the 2008 change in licencing conditions, known as the 'Newcastle conditions'.

In the course of my work I have been required to treat people whom have accidentally injured themselves whilst under the influence of alcohol, people whom have been accidentally injured by another person affected by alcohol, people whom have been assaulted by a person affected by alcohol, people whom have been involved in fights and altercations as a result of alcohol, and members of the Police Force whom have been injured as a result of attending alcohol related crimes and incidents.

**I strongly support maintaining the Newcastle conditions.** I also believe they should be extended to other nearby suburbs where unacceptable alcohol related violence continues to occur including the Hamilton / Beaumont Street area.

The reduction in alcohol trading as a result of the restrictions put in place in 2008 led to an undeniable and impressive reduction in injury and crime including assaults. This has been shown by academic research such as that undertaken by the University of Newcastle, as well as data from the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Any relaxation of the current trading restrictions will lead to an increase in alcohol sales and availability. Whilst this will lead to increased profits for the proponents, it will also certainly lead to an unacceptable increase in associated health and social costs to the community.

The review can be confident that any significant loosening of licencing conditions and the resultant increase in availability of alcoholic beverages in the Newcastle CBD will directly cause additional alcohol related harm. The "Newcastle Conditions" put in place in 2008 have been and remain effective in reducing alcohol related crime and should remain in place at their current level.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Przybylski', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Roger Przybylski  
MB BS; FRACGP