
Re: Resident feedback regarding Review of Newcastle Licence conditions.

Geoff Natrass [REDACTED]
To: newcastle.review@ilga.nsw.gov.au

Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 8:41 PM

Jonathan Horton QC

Sir

I am a resident of Newcastle, I live at [REDACTED]. Within a 5 minute walk from my front door are 3 hotels, if I extend that to a 10 minute walk it also include 2 clubs. Thus you can see I have pretty much a first hand knowledge of the effect of hotels/ clubs and their patrons on surrounding neighborhoods. I am a retired teacher and have no vested interest in Newcastle licenced venues.

In my geographical area I have seen no evidence of decreased anti-social behavior since the so called "lock-out" laws were introduced in 2008. To me things are the same as always, i.e. a very low level of anti-social behavior. It was very rare prior to the changes in 2008 to be disturbed or affected by anti-social behaviour before 2008 and this has remained the same since.

I cannot see that the changes made in 2008 have in anyway made the area around our neighborhood (or in fact anywhere in Newcastle inner city) any more or less safer. To me that shows the changes to laws made in 2008 are superfluous. To me they were an over-zealous knee jerk reaction to minor problems.

As a resident of Newcastle, especially inner city Newcastle, I welcome the review of licencing conditions. I hope the review leads to an relaxation of the draconian rules introduced in 2008. For Newcastle to move on financially and socially it needs to adapt a much more cosmopolitan approach to licenced venues. Longer trading hours, more footpath service and more entertainment in venues can only help create employment and attract tourists. At the same time provide a wider choice for people in Newcastle.

I thank you for the opportunity to submit my views.

Regard
Geoff Natrass

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mobile: [REDACTED]