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## Re: Review

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**Stephen [Hunt Hospitality]**

<Stephen@hunthospitality.com.au>

Tue, Feb 13, 2018 at

9:46 PM

To: "Stephen [Hunt Hospitality]" <Stephen@hunthospitality.com.au>

Cc: "newcastle.review@ilga.nsw.gov.au"

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

14 January 2018

Review of Newcastle and surrounding areas Licensing Conditions  
Imposed in 2008

This submission is made on behalf of the Hamilton Liquor Accord.

Hamilton Liquor Accord is made up of some 7 late trading hotels, 2 clubs and 8 bottleshops as well as over 40 Licensed restaurants and cafes, currently it has approximately 1 million people who attend the licensed premises per calendar year. These venues currently pay within the order of a combined total of \$1.2 million annually for security measures.

The Hamilton area is considered the cosmopolitan capital of the Hunter, home to many festivals and markets, renowned for its diversity in ethnicity.

By way of background Hamilton was not part of the original complaint against the Newcastle inner city late trading licensed premises of 2008 however was subjected to a proceeding some 18 months later mainly because of displacement of some of the patrons barred from the late trading venues no longer frequenting the city and coming to Hamilton and continuing their antisocial behaviour albeit in Hamilton. The result was another action which resulted in very similar conditions imposed on the late trading Hotels of Hamilton to that of Newcastle.

After the imposition of the conditions several of the Hamilton Hotels no longer trade past midnight and over \$10 million dollars has been spent on

## capital expenditure by the remaining Hotels to improve vitality

Newcastle Entertainment Precinct (NEP): saw a dramatic improvement in decreasing assaults in the Newcastle and Hamilton area, several of the Hamilton hotels are part of the NEP, its growth should be encouraged with caution as allowing certain members could take away the fabric of a strong robust community based group. Designed purely with the intention to prevent persons who have behaved antisocially from enter any other members of the NEPs venues and strengthening RSA practises.

### External influences on persons visiting Hamilton

A food court that was trading outside of it s D.A approved hours had attracted an element of people to the Hamilton area that has become a known hotspot for antisocial behaviour shoud start seeing the benefit of community and government consultation and agreement and introduction of best practises to reduce violence and antisocial behaviour. A move that the Hamilton Liquor Accord applauds.

There has also been the train line truncation at Hamilton which still has its issues. The train line used to stop in Newcastle and was for many months the last stop in Hamilton. This attracted a large number of fare evading train travellers getting off the ungated station and wandering the streets of Hamilton. Despite the fact that Hamilton is no longer the last stop it is still ungated which means transients are still able to get off in Hamilton undetected. Newcastle police increased their presence in this area which had a great result in decreasing antisocial behaviour however they do not have the resources or the funding to do this on a 24 hours a day 7 days week basis.

### Fact

An interesting study recently revealed the following findings:  
Professor Kim Usher from the School of Health at the University of New England said “38 per cent of alcohol-related injuries occur at home while 13 per cent occur on the street and 10 per cent at licensed premises.”

This research supports the theory that Licensed premises are actually safer places to drink than in the home as they are in a controlled and secure environment.

If Licensed premises do not abide by the Liquor Act there are already tools for the enforcement agencies to use to ensure that compliance is adhered to.

Sought outcome

The Hamilton Liquor Accord seeks parity with not only Newcastle but also international city standards, such as Sydney where we would suggest a lockout of 1.30am and 3.30am closing time across all venues with a current late trading license.

A relaxing of the drink restrictions by giving the licensed venues the ability to serve cocktails until 1 am and the lifting of the 4 drink minimum.

Thank you for the opportunity to make comment.

Your sincerely

Stephen Hunt  
Hamilton Liquor Accord Chairperson

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Kind regards,  
Stephen Hunt

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On 12/2/18, 11:57 am, "Stephen [Hunt Hospitality]"  
<[Stephen@hunthospitality.com.au](mailto:Stephen@hunthospitality.com.au)> wrote:

Hi Gavin

Sorry I'm on the road and don't have access to all my files

Can I resend the submission on behalf of Hamilton tomorrow?

Kind Regards

Stephen Hunt

Sent from my iPad