
Resident Input to Newcastle Review

Wed, Nov 22, 2017 at 12:21 PM

[REDACTED]
to: newcastle.review@ilga.nsw.gov.au

The Honorable I.D.F. Callinan AC,

Sir I am a resident of Darby Street Cooks Hill about fifteen minutes walk from the Newcastle CBD. I consume alcohol in responsible amounts and am a retired Air Force Officer and family man.

Currently we 'enjoy a vibrant atmosphere' in the street. Darby Street is a commonly used thoroughfare for pedestrians who commonly 'migrate' into town from other alcohol serving venues in or near Glebe Road The Junction, most noticeably on Friday and Saturday nights. A return journey seems to occur around 3 a.m. which I assume follows the closing of alcohol venues in the Newcastle CBD.

With the current liquor laws in place within the Newcastle CBD the aforementioned vibrancy is at a level I can accept. Nevertheless I am commonly unsettled on Friday and Saturday evenings by the need to monitor my property and those surrounding by agreement with neighbours, to prevent occasional vandalism which appears to be undertaken by selected intoxicated persons returning from the direction of the Newcastle CBD. Indeed I once confronted two drunks who were trashing our property which in retrospect was probably not a wise move due to the risk of injury (which luckily was avoided).

We moved into this residence in 2010, which of course was after the introduction of the current lockout laws. However longer term residents at the time have advised that prior to introduction of the lockout laws the 'vibrancy' was unacceptable with drunken disturbances occurring through all hours of the night often until sunrise and at a much greater frequency and intensity than is currently the case. Based on current disturbances I would not like to see a return to the conditions that prevailed prior to the lockout laws.

I am unsure of specifically which provisions you are reviewing. However in conducting the review I respectfully request you consider my submission as it is based on direct, albeit qualitative, observations.

Thank you

Ian Dibley