

PO Box 372

Newcastle NSW 2300

To: Mr Crawford Chairperson

Liquor & Gaming NSW

GPO 7060

Sydney NSW 2001

Re: Review of liquor license conditions for 14 Newcastle CBD venues and other matters

Dear Mr Crawford

I wish to advise that we support retaining the current package of license condition s104 Newcastle Conditions. There has been very limited community consultation or transparency regarding this review and if a review takes place it should be conducted by the ILGA and under the same legal provisions by which they originated.

As a resident of Newcastle East for the past 14 years, prior to this I lived at Darby Street Cooks Hill, I have during both of these times lived in close proximity to licensed premises. We have, for many years tried to make our city safe as many of us have known young members of our community who have been assaulted some seriously.

Newcastle City Councils proposed replacement model of the Newcastle conditions was approved without any input from the Community, Police and Health professions regarding the specifics of how their proposed model is structured and will work. This negates any claim by Newcastle City Council that their model has community endorsement.

The last survey conducted by the Council had overwhelming support from the community for the package of Newcastle license conditions.

The enquiry must dispel Newcastle City Council's myth that an essential pre-requisite for the continued growth and revitalisation of the CBD is a significant increase in the volumes and strengths of alcohol supply and a big expansion in the number of licensed premises supplying alcohol late into the night.

The NSW State Government and Newcastle City Council are spending millions of dollars on the revitalisation Newcastle and encourage an increase in the over 55 units being built in the Newcastle CBD with more at the planning stage. We must make the city safe for these people during the day and night when they visit local restaurants and the smaller bars eg. Bar Petite and The Reserve to mention a couple and these will increase with the increase in the seniors downsizing and moving into units in the CBD. Young people are also visiting these establishments now and enjoying the safety of our city. We do however share the Newcastle Police concerns that some of the Small Bars are operating as Feeder Venues to the large late trading hotels.

There are still unacceptably high rates of alcohol DV assaults and that it has remained despite the commendable reductions, a (BOCSAR) declared alcohol violent "hotspot" for the last decade and the first priority for all Governments must be to fix this problem that in Hamilton before they consider any watering down of the package of Newcastle conditions

We are appalled with the argument suggesting loss of revenue for the larger licensed locations this should not be used to override the safety of members of the community.

We support superintendent John Gralton's appeal (Newcastle Herald November 22 2017) to preserve the integrity of the package of conditions and support his proposal to reduce late trade.

If this package is dismantled it will, in the future, be detrimental to these residents.

Rosalie & John Collins

4th February 2017