

To whom it may concern

I would like to raise a concern around “A safer drinking culture”

Current laws need updating to address the reality of what is happening in our hotels and spilling into our streets and at times into the local residents’ homes. This situation is particularly pertinent for hotels that are situated in popular beachside suburbs surrounded by housing and commercial premises.

Presently patrons who exhibit anti social or violent behavior are ejected by security from a hotel premise out onto the local street. In our situation, the hotel is surrounded by housing, retail outlets and children and families walking to and from the beach or the nearby ice-cream shops. Once these patrons are on the street exhibiting drunken and disorderly behavior the security from the hotel has no legal duty of care for the ejected patrons or anyone the patrons may harass, intimidate or physically abuse. Police are called but they may or may not be able to attend these incidents and even if they do there is a time lapse between the time of the ejection and the police arriving at the scene. On one particular day our local hotel received over \$100,000 in takings and local residents in return were harassed and intimidated. Violent fights broke out in a supermarket car park and a domestic violence incident spilled into front yards. Tax payers money is then spent on police patrols attending such incidents and the courts sorting out the incidents. The hotel takes no responsibility, either financially or physically for the results of supplying alcohol that results in alcohol-fuelled violence on our public streets. Current laws expose residents including children to an ‘unsafe drinking culture’.

I would like to see laws address:

- the disconnect between the right to supply alcohol and the responsibility for anti social behavior as a result of supplying this alcohol.

Regards

Angela Vaughan