
From: Deb Cleland
Sent: Thursday, 15 July 2010 11:38 AM
To: Committees
Subject: Submission: Live events in Canberra.

Dear Ms Kosseck,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the important matter of live events in Canberra.

I was born in Canberra and have lived here my whole life, with short periods of time studying overseas. I love the city, but it is hard to contend with those who argue it is boring, because of the lack of live music venues due to the absolute lack of support the government provides to entrepreneurs investing in providing live music to the Canberra public.

I find it depressing and frustrating that such businesses are continuously shut down due to conflict with residential and tourism developers who are unable to design their dwellings appropriately to deal with the inevitable noise of entertainment hubs. Late night noise is an inevitable part of a rich and vibrant city culture, and unless the government is able to change its policies and practices in this arena, it will be impossible to curb the outward flow of young people from Canberra.

I personally know many young artists who have left the city for want of opportunities, and many more young professionals looking for more active cultural outlets.

I urge the government to look beyond the cries of the affluent inner city dwellers and the property magnates, who hypocritically establish their investments in the heart of the city, only to cynically complain when the city centre does not follow the timetable of the hinterlands.

Let those who want to sleep in the middle of the city take responsibility for their lifestyle choices, not the pub and bar owners and music-loving public that contribute enormous amounts to Canberra's economy and culture.

Please see my signature below for my contact details.

Yours sincerely

Deborah Cleland