Inquiry into strategies to reduce alcohol abuse among young people in NSW

Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues

Question taken on notice – Is there any health data from the Newcastle experience?

In 2008, in response to increasing alcohol-related violence in Newcastle, the NSW Liquor administration Board introduced additional conditions under s104 of the NSW Liquor Act 1982 on 15 hotels in key entertainment precincts including restriction in trading hours and drink restrictions.

According to Miller and colleagues (2012), following these interventions, there was a general downward trend over time in alcohol related injury presentations to emergency departments. Figure 1 shows this relationship graphically.

*Figure 1. Rate of injury-related Newcastle ED attendances per 10,000 during high alcohol hours of Saturday and Sunday morning, midnight to 5.59 am (1.1.2005-30.6.2011). (Dotted line is linear trend.)*

Source: adapted from Miller et al 2012, p38.