

Submission
No 275

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING PROCESS IN NEWCASTLE
AND THE BROADER HUNTER REGION**

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 24/10/2014

Partially Confidential

Hi my name is _____ I'm a third year Nursing student at the _____ and I live on _____ I use the train often to get from University, where I live, to Newcastle for study and pleasure. Myself and my friends often use the train to get to and from Newcastle if we are planning on drinking alcohol as a taxi is very expensive and it is illegal to drive whilst drunk. The current service is very quick taking 12 minutes to get from Newcastle station to Warabrook station at the university where my accommodation is 5 minutes' walk away. If the train is stopped at Hamilton, I will be forced to get a bus from Newcastle to Hamilton to catch the train. This potentially makes a 10 minute journey an hour, if the bus is late and the train connection is not made. I feel the decision to truncate the train is decreasing my access to public transport and make a good service a lot worse. Please reconsider this decision and think about burying the train underground from Wickham to Newcastle Station.