

Submission
No 102

**INQUIRY INTO THE MUSIC AND ARTS ECONOMY IN
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 20 February 2018

Partially
Confidential

The music industry in NSW has become a joke.

Music venues have faded away and variety only flourishes in the underground.

As somebody who has been deeply involved in event management for over a decade including everything from hosting night clubs, to managing international artist tours, to being involved in the management of music festivals, I have seen first hand how it has become harder and harder for the industry to survive, let alone flourish.

Red tape and excessive costs deliberately enforced by the authorities has strangled what was once a thriving music scene.

Noise complaints from residents who have moved next door to existing venues are treated as priority over an entire industry struggling to survive.

Gambling is a cashcow and given the green light while live music is condemned.

Sporting events have millions of government money thrown at them (along with money from their sponsors) while the only money that seems to be spent on the music industry is to shut events down and make things harder.

It's no coincidence the frequency, size, and variety of music festivals has dropped dramatically over the past decade, along with clubs and pubs closing their doors one after the other.

The conservative liberal government has their agenda based on pleasing property developers and other contributors to their political party while completely disregarding any need for music.

The music scene overall is a disgrace when compared to the rest of the world.

Is there any point in this survey? Probably not.

The only solution is to wait until the aging conservative liberal voters no longer have enough voting power and this dinosaur government is replaced by one that cares about the arts, and listens to people other than those with property portfolios and shares in mining.

It's only a matter of time.