

**Submission
No 400**

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

Name: Mr Paul Winn

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To , Hon Paul Green MLC
Committee Chair
Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment

· Who they are

My Name is Paul Winn

· What they do as musicians/audiences

I am a musician who performs live and makes his living from gigs and a tiny bit of sales from original music

· How many gigs there are now and previously

I believe there are very few gigs for bands now and still some gigs for solo artists or very small bands

I have been a professional musician for 25 years and have seen the industry slowly being destroyed.

Talk to anyone who has played as long as me or longer and you will find that the 70's and 80's were the best decades for the amount of work and it has steadily gone down hill from there.

· What's impacted the scene – lockouts / pokies / broadcast sport etc

Many laws have ruined the industry.

1. someone can move next door to a venue that has hired bands for 20 years and shut it down in 6 months with noise complaints.

2. Poker machines have meant that most venues dont need to provide good entertainment or good food, they are making enough money ruining peoples lives with gambling.

3. lockout laws have slightly effected the viability of some venues which would lead to less gigs

4 I believe Social media and dating apps have meant that people don't go to see a band in the hopes of meeting the opposite sex anymore.

5 The standard of playing has gone down...A handful of musicians are still making a living out of it and are generally amazing players because they had to be to survive...The rest are playing maybe once are week if they are lucky, and are generally not of the standard that musicians were a decade or two ago.

6 The laws regarding how much Australian music must be played on the radio has changed in the last couple of decades. The lack of support for homegrown talent has meant bands from overseas get more airplay on radio these days and therefore do better when they tour over here than Australian bands

· Ideas for industry development – funding / better regulation

1. Change the law regarding noise complaints from someone moving in next to a Venue

2 . Poker machines do nothing for society..It makes people who might otherwise be helping Australia in some way, waste years of there life in front a bunch of flashing

lights. Slowly decrease the number allowed so venues can adapt to making their money in more constructive ways.

3 Lockout laws only redirect the violence into another suburb...Injuries may be down at St Vincents but they are up at Royal Prince Alfred in Newtown. These laws only destroy venues and redirect violence.

4 Change the laws regarding the amount of Australian content that must be played on Radio to help the Australian music industry.

5. Use funding to change these laws...Giving it out to musicians won't help