

**Submission  
No 403**

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

**Name:** Mr Paul Joseph

**Date received:** 16 March 2018

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To the Committee

I have been involved in the music industry in many forms over the last 38 years , as a Producer /Band Leader / Drummer / Tour Manager and at times had great success , *i have been involved in many number 1 Australian hits by some of Australia's biggest names in both the POP and JAZZ genres - See Attached*

I required several degrees including a Dip of Jazz ( Adelaide Conservatorium ) small business degree i completed in 1993

I have Lectured in some of Sydney University's including AIM where i personally wrote 4 of their main music Syllabus , and lectured and taught at some of Sydney most prestigious schools including , MacDonald College of the Arts ( 3 years ) , Sydney Boys High School ( 7 Years ) , St Patricks College Strathfield ( 5 years )

My venues included from 1999 - 2011 , PARK HYATT SYDNEY , THE SEBEL , THE INTERCONTINENTAL , THE woolloomooloo ( BLUE ) , SHERATON WENT-WORTH HOTEL , THE RITZ Double Bay ,THE AVIATION HOTEL jazz club ( 1999 - 2006 ) amongst many other rooms , during this time my company *employed at times 40 musicians per week all paid well above union rates* , which have not existed now since the late 80s , due to most venues closing by 1989

I worked with John Wardle for many years , on Abolishing **THE POPE LICENSING ACT** , bought in 1986 by John Wheeler LABOUR MP ( the biggest nail in the coffin for live music NSW had ever seen, and we still live in the dark ages in NSW ) it was finally abolished in 2009 when the [The Hon. \(Brad\) Bradley Ronald HAZZARD](#) crossed the floor

In OCT 2017 i began building a new music venue in Kings Cross called - **PROHIBITION** ,due to open in MARCH 2018 (the name is apt as the BARRIERS to TRADE in NSW are massive) there is no city in the world which has the restrictions on opening or running a music venue / night club than NSW and especially KINGS CROSS , it is almost impossible to trade , not only the lock out laws, but the absurd compliance put on owners to even open the doors to trade , including photo scanning , STAR CITY CASINO has no such requirements neither do pubs or any other venues within close precincts e.g OXFORD ST , DOUBLE BAY , NEWTOWN etc

I closed my music business PAULJOSEPHPRODUCTIONS down in 2013 as it was impossible to earn a living or indeed employ musicians as venues could not afford live music , due to Governments inept and hopeless action on matters regarding , LIVE MUSIC IN NSW , we have a generation of kids who have never seen a live band , **THE CULTURE IN NSW IS DEAD** , go to Melbourne for a weekend and see the endless venues full of people , till all hours of the night , 7 nights a week

**FUNDING** , well there is none , by FEDERAL or STATE GOVERNMENTS , the amount of money available or incentives to business to host live music is virtual NIL - see attached

**PAST AND PRESENT** ( learn from the PAST) - Federal and State Governments have systematically destroyed the biggest live music industry in the world , we had more venues and working musicians in the 60s 70s 80s per head of capita than anywhere in the world , nurtured live music bands such as INXS , MIDNIGHT OIL , SHERBERT , LRB , COLD CHISEL the list is endless came from the live venue music scene, generating 1000s of jobs in music venues , clubs pubs , RSL , bars , these people pay tax and vote , cleaners , bar staff , waiters , managers , musicians , production companies all engaged in the process

**OUR KIDS CULTURE** - LIVE Music brings all generations together and communities have a focus to engage in something unique and real, tangible , this is now totally gone in NSW , finished , and its time Governments pulled their finger out to fix the mess they have left , if you want to make a difference, make decisions that engage major stakeholders such as John Wardle , myself , venues , hotels etc

**TAX INCENTIVES** - *Governments should make a simple tax exemption for venues that employ live music* , this would also be a huge incentive for operators to ‘ HAVE A GO ‘ this would not be difficult to implement and easily policed

GOVERNMENTS on both sides , HAVE BEEN DUPLICIT , GREEDY , letting the big developers make decisions and take available space to knock down and build on existing venue spaces , The SYDENHAM PRECINCT voted down by the Greens at MARRICKVILLE COUNCIL meeting is outrageous , massive factory spaces with no housing empty for decades - WHY

This enquiry i am sure will not do a thing to generate a fair playing field for venues and musicians , as bureaucrats and politicians you don't have the guts or initiative to make a difference

**I will be contacting the SMH and major media when this enquiry is finalised , I'm sure it will produce no outcomes , you never have, or do, and they will have a field day on this**

Regards,

Paul Joseph  
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