

**Submission  
No 4**

**INQUIRY INTO LIQUOR AMENDMENT (MUSIC  
FESTIVALS) REGULATION 2019 AND GAMING AND  
LIQUOR ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT (MUSIC  
FESTIVALS) REGULATION 2019**

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Licensing Music Festivals under the Liquor Act creates a system that ties Alcohol and Music Festivals together. This causes many issues because of the diverse ways bars are ran at festivals as well as the social history that is slowly being changed, that is live music and Alcohol go hand in hand. Any Music Festival licensing system should not attempt to double as a liquor license.

The economics of a small or medium size festival needs to be investigated before changes are implemented. Festival regulation already imposes considerable expense on event organisers. For smaller or less popular festivals, these costs can be enough to prevent organisers from attempting to run events. If operational costs for small or new festivals increase due to a change in regulations it is very likely that many events will fail before they have a chance to get established, or do not event get started. This is concerning as in 20 years time what kind of festivals will we have? the market will become dominated by multi national companies who can afford the financial losses that are almost always involved in the establishment phase of a festival business or brand.

Centralising the decision making authority on festival licensing by removing power from local council and giving it to a state organisation is counter intuitive to the nature of a festival, which is supposed to be a celebration of the community and people in the area it takes place. What local councils choose to allow and disallow changes the way that particular region develops. Having more in depth information and advisory statistics at a state level, but leaving decision making authority at a local council level, would provide a more positive regulatory model for positive development of Music festivals across the state.