

Expanding Adult Time, Adult Crime and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026

Submission No: 071

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Publication: Making the submission and your name public

We moved to Redcliffe from Melbourne in mid 2024. Rampant crime and general deterioration of liveability since COVID were main reasons for our retirement back to our birthplace (my wife) and my hometown as I lived in Brisbane for close to ten years after immigrating to Queensland.

We really appreciate the amenities, the general friendliness of the people and I must commend our local Council (Moreton Bay) for their efforts in maintaining the area to a great standard.

We have noticed a relative large number of what are apparently called "PEHs or "persons experiencing homelessness". Understandably so as it is a nice area close to the Bay and relatively unspoiled. In my experience there are loosely three categories.

1. free riders who do not wish to pay for a camping. For example during the Christmas holiday i noticed on Sutton's Beach a large family having set up residence next to the toilets and barbeque facilities. Three tents, four or so kids, solar, nice car. The works. Those people should not camp on public facilities but I understand Council has no power to move them on.
2. People who have fallen into homelessness for whatever reason. Please note that many of us are only a couple of bad decisions away from that state. Some of them do some jobs for the local business community and what not. These people are usually friendly and we support them where we can.
3. People that game the system. We have found many relative young people and of able body setting up camp and proving to be a nuisance at best and sometimes a danger. Often they claim a large area and make an enormous mess. Typically drugs are involved.

A couple of months ago there was a fire next to the public toilets where someone had set up residence. Fairly recently opposite our building a van blew up and create a large fire. We had right opposite where we live people camping for close to a year in a caravan. They had a canoe, a dog, a bird, two cars and a very load generator that ran from 7am to 7pm. They were very abusive and have verbally attacked me on several occasions. Currently there is a lady in a van abusing most passers-by. We can actually watch from our roof and see drug deals being done around the area.

All these are threatening and have caused us not to leave the apartment after sunset. It causes a very substantial deterioration of our quality of life. One of the residents in the building is apparently moving because they do not feel safe anymore, something I can understand.

I understand Council tried to address the situation but was immediately challenged in Court. We tried to talk to the police but our complaints have gone missing and we have also been told quite explicitly that the police has better things to do. Admittedly they have once arrested the current vagrant but she was back in days and has not changed her behaviour. It actually caused more issues as the police left her cat in the hot car and we had to find a way to save that poor animal.

I understand the issues PEHs face, and think it is great what the state and local governments try to achieve. There is however a large contingent that apparently is quite happy with the position they are in whilst causing much grief to the local community.

I get a willing ear from our Councillor but his hands are tied. Council's legislation is being hampered at every opportunity. The police is too busy doing other things. So any legislation that supports the authorities in dealing with people causing ongoing major stress is welcome.

With kind regards,

Raymond Jacobs

