

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

Submission No: 102

Submission By: George Milford

Publication: Making the submission and your name public

MP ref: M000
QA: gm

17 March 2026

Queensland Parliamentary Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee
Via online form

To the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee,

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

I refer to the above, and make this submission to support the proposed Bill – specifically that aspect that relates to strengthening community safety in business precincts, and eliminating anti-social behaviour.

In late 2023 we purchased a dilapidated, historic, building in Flinders Street in Townsville's Central Business District. It is located in the heart of the city – was originally build as a bank in the 1880s and back then was opposite the post office and town hall – in a part of Townsville that has been the focus for years of effort by Government and the Townsville City Council to attract investment, urban renewal and activation.

We invested significantly in transforming this building and relocated our professional services business there from suburban Townsville in October 2024.

Whilst we enjoy working in the City and our new premises, anti-social behaviour impacts our business and is a major constraint to the future of Townsville's city heart.

Our experience has involved:

- staff not able/comfortable to enter the front door of the premises due to concerns about 'moving on' people that were 'camped' in our doorway;
- us installing a rear security gate (sadly for use whilst we are 'open' for business, as well as closed), we had issues with intoxicated itinerants walking through the middle of our office (from Sturt Street to Flinders Street) – almost on a weekly basis;
- starting our day cleaning the excrement from our doorway;



-
- being broken into – and whilst we only really lost some soft furnishings – it made our staff feel very uncomfortable and unsafe;
 - a staff member’s parked car was damaged with a sign through the front windscreen as a consequence of some early morning altercation in Flinders street;
 - some of our staff being reluctant to walk the 300m to woolworths – or out for a coffee – as it does not feel safe or comfortable passing the intoxicated people loitering on the street – who are occasionally inclined to heckle, call out, comment, and generally carry on;
 - sometimes, having meetings interrupted due to anti-social carrying-on out the front of our office;
 - installing locks on our wheelie bins to avoid people emptying them (and not putting the rubbish back in) in search of food or anything else of value.

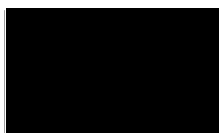
Evening this morning, I was particularly careful when entering our rear (shared) driveway to avoid the homeless person with her half-dozen shopping bags of belongings that was laying on the kerb sipping on a can of bourbon and coke.

I support any measures that Government can implement to improve our experience with anti-social behaviour – and have no doubt that such measures will improve investment, confidence and visitation to Townsville’s centre.

I am willing to discuss this further or answer any questions in relation to this submission on (07) 4724 0095 if that is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

MILFORD PLANNING



George Milford
DIRECTOR