

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

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Submission By: Maddison Cameron

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I live in Southport and run my business here. Recently, we have been seriously considering relocating due to the ongoing issues with litter, neglect, and the increasing presence of criminal activity. It has reached a point where I no longer feel safe walking my dog after 8 PM. Even during my morning walks, I regularly encounter rubbish, broken glass, and poorly maintained surroundings, which makes what should be a pleasant experience quite the opposite. Our apartment itself is beautiful and offers one of the best views on the Gold Coast. However, the quality of the property alone is no longer enough to justify staying in an area that feels dirty, unsafe, and surrounded by elements we simply do not want to live or work around.

The council has been talking about cleaning up Southport for many years. Returning from Sydney and seeing the area in its current condition has been extremely disappointing. In Sydney, I witnessed firsthand the transformation of Kings Cross after a focused effort to clean up the area. Within just a few years, the difference was remarkable. The streets were safer, the environment was cleaner, and the area's overall experience improved dramatically. When people invest substantial amounts of money to live in a location, maintaining high standards for the environment and community simply makes sense.

I fully support a meaningful clean-up of Southport, and I believe it begins with the basics: keeping streets clean, maintaining lawns and gardens, and ensuring public spaces are cared for. At the same time, we must show compassion by providing support and proper housing solutions for vulnerable homeless and mentally unwell members of our society, helping them find stability in places better suited to their needs.

Southport surrounds the Broadwater Parklands, one of the most beautiful waterfront areas in the world, and people are now paying millions of dollars to live here for the views and lifestyle it offers. This area deserves to reflect that value.

I fully support efforts to revitalise Southport and help it become the true CBD of the Gold Coast.