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## Submission – Alcohol Related Violence

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I make this submission as the Chair of the Townsville City Council Community Safety and Health Committee. By way of background I was the former Officer In Charge of the Townsville Police Division (9 years) which included the Flinders Street East Nightclub Precinct.

It is my strong belief that legislation needs to be enacted that gives power to the Courts to prohibit/ban persons from either attending a licensed establishment or a nominated entertainment precinct.

At the present time police have move-on powers and licensees have the power to prohibit entry to their respective premises, however there is a need to extend these powers to allow courts to prohibit or ban nominated persons for extended periods of time.

It is my submission that a sliding scale could be implemented with prohibition periods linked to the severity of the offending behaviour e.g.

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Period of Prohibition</b>
Disorderly behaviour	1 Month
Assault	6 Months
Serious Assault	12 Months
Drug trafficking	5 years

Any breach of this prohibition order would result in the offender reappearing in court to be dealt with accordingly.

I have witnessed a small group of well known recidivist offenders continually frequent our nightclub precinct with the express intention of engaging in anti-social behaviour. These persons frequently assault nightclub patrons and are generally deemed a nuisance by traders, police and the wider community. Legislative powers as outlined above would give courts the power to ban these persons from entering the nightclub precinct and thus reduce the likelihood of assaults and other offences occurring. In the past I have examined the option of 'banning notices', however without the relevant legislation to support these notices they are nothing more than a 'bluff'.

It may also be the case that when these persons appear before a court, consideration could also be given to enforcing compliance with anger management or alcohol rehabilitation courses, particularly if they are recidivist offenders.

Cr Dale Last  
Townsville City Council.