RECEIVE

13 NOV 2009

Law, Justice and Sator, Committee

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From: Bill Cahill

Sent: Friday, 13 November 2009 10:39 AM

To: Springwood Electorate Office

Subject: Alcohol Related Incidents Submission

Dear Sir / Madam

I would like to submit the information attached.

Can I draw your attention to the last graph in particular, which clearly shows the amount of incidents related to alcohol.

Separate to this information it has become obvious to me in my role as a councillor for the Toowoomba Regional Council and my portfolio duties containing community safety, that responsible service of alcohol is at the core of the problem.

It is well known that a proportion of people who attend the late licensed premises into our city do so after drinking to the point of intoxication and then being permitted to enter these premises continue to consume alcohol.

Only to be then turfed out onto the street to become someone else's problem to deal with.

I do not think it is fair that the general rate base of the Toowoomba regional council pays for the operating and capital expenditure of the city safe program.

That the rest of the community pays for extra policing to control the obvious problems created as the stats clearly show.

That the community pays for emergency hospital bills that result from this type of behaviour.

Police and the publicans through the LIAG committee of which I am a member have set up a banning system for people who choose to fight I these premises.

In my opinion these are only reactionary methods of dealing with these problems instead of proactive measures.

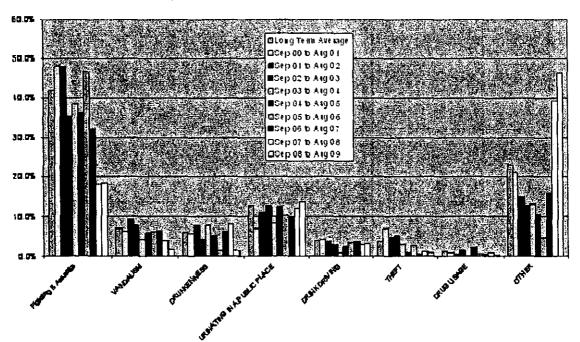
I would welcome the opportunity to speak further with a representative of the committee but I do appreciate that this is a late submission.

Shown below are graphs which have been derived from City Safe Data for the last 10 years for recorded incidents within the CBD. The incidents are those that have been reported by City safe operators and have occurred within the camera coverage area of the CBD. This data can not be compared with Police data as the recorded areas are different. The area of coverage has not changed in that period and there has been very little change to the number of Hotels/Night clubs within the area of coverage. There has not been any change in live monitoring operating hours in this period, however an additional operator was added for four hours on Saturday and Sunday mornings from September 2007.

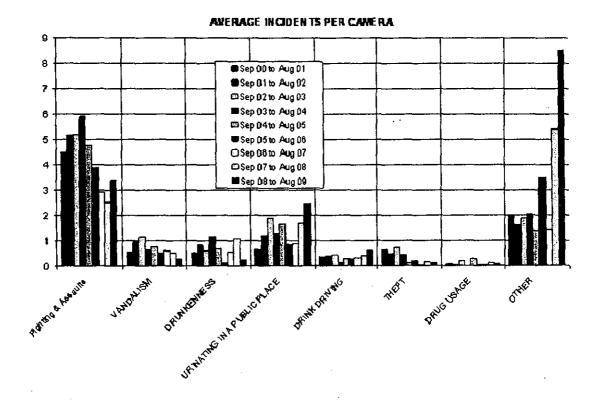
Tombas Night Club opened in Jul 2007 and therefore there was two Night Clubs with 5 am close operating for a period of approximately three months. Rumours Night Club closed around October 2007. Toowoomba Night Clubs normally only open on Friday and Saturday Nights. One Hotel, the Cube formally the High Court was closed from October 2007 to September 2008.

The three am lock-out was enforced by the State Government on 1 July 2006. This lock-out had very little effect in Toowoomba as there is only one venue which is allowed to open after three am.

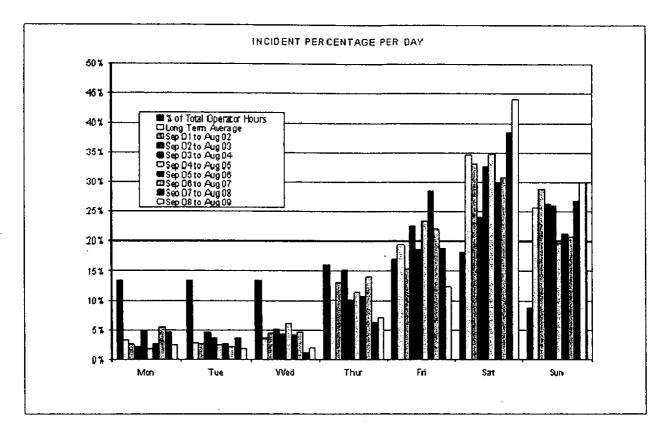
INCIDENT TYPES BY PERCENTAGE



This graph shows that in the long term over 40 percent of incidents recorded by City Safe operators are for violence. There has been a significant reduction in this figure in the last two years.

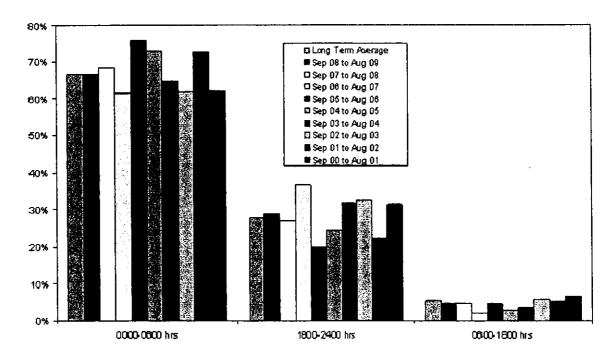


This graph shows average incidents per camera to allow for camera increase over that period. In the period September 2000 to August 2009, the number of camera increased from 26 to 40. This information shows that there has been a significant drop in number of violence related incidences over the last four years.



This graph shows the percentage of incidents for each day of the week. A majority of incidents occur on Friday Night, Saturday and Sunday morning. Operator hours have been added to show that the incident numbers have not been biased toward operator hours.

Percentage Time Breskdown of Incidents



This graph shows that the majority of incidents occur between Midnight and six am in the morning. If we combine this information with incidents per day graph, most of the incidents occur between midnight and 6 am Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Most of these incidents are associated with alcohol.