



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF QUEENSLAND

LAW, JUSTICE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

**Inquiry into Alcohol-Related Violence
Interim Report**

November 2009

Report No. 73

LAW, JUSTICE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

53RD PARLIAMENT

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CHAIR'S FOREWORD

This interim report contains information on the progress of the inquiry into alcohol-related violence conducted by the Law, Justice and Safety Committee.

The matters involved in this inquiry are wide-ranging and complex. The committee understood early in the inquiry that the original reporting date of 26 November 2009 would not allow sufficient time for the Committee to thoroughly consult, research and report on the causes and consequences of alcohol-related violence and to formulate solutions. The Parliament granted an extension, requested by the Committee, and a final report will be provided by 18 March 2010.

The Committee released an issues paper in August 2009 and invited submissions on a range of matters relevant to alcohol-related violence. In response, the Committee received over 140 submissions.

Members of the Committee appreciate the need to fully understand the issues. The Committee has undertaken extensive consultation including public hearings in Townsville, Cairns and Brisbane, several meetings with stakeholders, and inspections of entertainment precincts in the Brisbane CBD and Fortitude Valley, Townsville and Cairns. Members of the Committee have discussed matters relevant to this inquiry with a diverse range of stakeholders.

It is clear that there has been a cultural shift in the attitudes of people to drinking and that many young people drink with the sole purpose of getting drunk. This change in attitude needs to be addressed with young Queenslanders today. The Committee is aware that many of the stakeholders are well organised and represented by associations and organisations. This is not so with consumers, particularly when it comes to Queensland's youth. In order to hear from young people the Committee has attended youth based events including a Youth Parliament and a youth summit, and has organised a student forum. The Committee also launched a Facebook page for this inquiry—the first Parliamentary Committee in Queensland to do so.

Members are aware of the significant community debate around some of the matters being considered by the Committee such as violent attacks using glass, trading hours and the use of illicit drugs. The issue of the extent to which the use of illicit drugs contributes to the levels of public violence has been raised on a number of occasions during the Committee's consultation. The Committee believes that this is an area requiring detailed examination and consideration. It falls outside the terms of reference of the Committee's inquiry and the Committee has recommended that this be the subject of a further Parliamentary inquiry.

The Committee received a detailed Government submission with information from several departments. Whilst the submission has provided important information relevant to the inquiry, the Committee requires further details from several departments. The Committee has written to the Premier advising it will seek further information on specific issues from various government departments and other agencies.

I thank my fellow Committee members for their dedication and tireless enthusiasm in this inquiry. We look forward to conducting further research and holding further consultations with relevant stakeholders before providing our final report to the Parliament by 18 March 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Stone', written in a cursive style.

Ms Barbara Stone MP
Chair

1. INTRODUCTION

The Law, Justice and Safety Committee is a statutory committee established by the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*. The Committee has a number of responsibilities, including administrative review reform, constitutional reform, electoral reform, and legal reform. It also examines issues regarding law, justice or safety that are referred to it by the Legislative Assembly.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

On 4 August 2009 the Committee received the following referral from the Legislative Assembly:

That the Law, Justice and Safety Committee conduct an inquiry and report on alcohol related violence in Queensland, with a focus on community safety and preventative measures to reduce levels of alcohol related violence, including its ramifications.

In undertaking this inquiry, the Committee should consider –

- *best practice harm minimisation measures in other Australian and international jurisdictions, including specific measures such as restrictions on use of glass;*
- *the impact of late opening hours on incidences of alcohol related violence;*
- *the flow-on issues for emergency service workers, police, and front-line health workers of alcohol related violence;*
- *education campaigns and their role in cultivating effective social change in terms of community attitudes to alcohol consumption;*
- *the role of parents in influencing the attitudes of young Queenslanders towards alcohol consumption; and*
- *the economic cost of alcohol related violence.*

Further, the Committee should take public submissions and consult with community leaders, educators, law enforcement, medical professionals and the liquor industry.

The initial reporting date was 26 November 2009. The Committee recognised early in the inquiry that this date would not allow sufficient time for the Committee to thoroughly consult, research and provide effective recommendations. The Committee requested an extension from the Parliament which was granted. The Committee will provide a final report by 18 March 2010.

3. THIS REPORT

This interim report provides information on the progress of the inquiry and highlights some issues which have come to the attention of the Committee. In brief, it contains information on the consultation activities of the Committee so far, including:

- three public hearings – Townsville, Cairns and Brisbane
- a school forum in Townsville
- a Brisbane YMCA Youth Parliament
- attendance at the Sunshine Coast Youth Summit
- establishment of a Committee Facebook page
- five night-time inspections of entertainment precincts (Brisbane CBD and Fortitude Valley, Mooloolaba, Townsville, and Cairns)

4. THE ISSUES PAPER

The Committee released an issues paper in August 2009, which was distributed to over 500 persons, organisations, and other stakeholders.¹ The Committee invited submissions and information on (but not limited to) the following:

Best-practice harm-minimisation measures:

- *Why do some individuals become violent offenders after consuming alcohol? What medical or psychological factors are involved?*
- *What measures are there to reduce harm?*
- *How effective have those measures been?*
- *What works? What doesn't work?*

The impact of late opening hours:

- *How have late opening hours impacted on the incidence of alcohol-related violence?*
- *What has been the impact of the 3am lockout on the incidence of alcohol-related violence?*
- *What other impacts has the 3am lockout had on patrons, venues, and other stakeholders?*
- *What changes, if any, should be made to opening hours, and alcohol service strategies within those hours, to reduce alcohol-related violence?*

Flow-on issues for emergency service workers, police and front-line health workers:

- *What is the impact of alcohol-related violence on police and other emergency service workers and health workers?*
- *How can negative impacts on these workers be reduced?*

Education campaigns and their role in cultivating effective social change in terms of community attitudes to alcohol consumption:

- *How do we change the drinking culture and create a culture of individual responsibility?*
- *What education campaigns are currently in place?*
- *How effective have they been?*
- *How could they be improved?*

The role of parents in influencing attitudes towards alcohol consumption:

- *How are parents influencing the attitudes of young Queenslanders?*
- *How can parents be assisted in instilling responsible attitudes to drinking?*

The economic cost of alcohol-related violence:

- *What is the economic cost of alcohol-related violence to the Queensland community?*
- *How could this cost be reduced?*

Submissions to the inquiry closed on 23 October 2009. The Committee has received over 140 submissions from a range of stakeholders and is considering these submissions along with other evidence gathered during this inquiry.

¹ Law, Justice and Safety Committee, *Inquiry into alcohol-related violence in Queensland, Issues paper*, August 2009 available at: www.parliament.qld.gov.au/ljsc

5. COMMITTEE CONSULTATION

The problem of alcohol-related violence is a wide ranging problem. In order to identify the issues posed by the inquiry, in addition to the information provided in submissions, the Committee has conducted extensive consultations throughout Queensland.

Many stakeholders are well organised and are represented by organisations such as industry councils, associations and accords. However, many persons who are likely to be affected by the recommendations of this Committee are not. The Committee recognises the importance of discussing this inquiry with patrons of licensed venues, members of the community, and Queensland's young people. As the next generation of patrons to frequent Queensland's licensed venues, it is important to discuss this matter with them now.

Consultations undertaken by the Committee include venue and nightclub precinct inspections in Brisbane CBD, Fortitude Valley, Cairns and Townsville; public hearings in Cairns, Townsville and Brisbane; a school forum in Townsville, a Youth Parliament, attendance at a youth summit and several meetings with academics and stakeholders.

In addition, the Committee established a Facebook page to widen the reach of this inquiry. The page allows the Committee to provide updates on the activities of the Committee and to place some of the information obtained by the Committee into the public arena in a timely manner.

This is the first use of Facebook by a parliamentary committee in Queensland as part of its consultative process.²

5.1 Inspections of Entertainment Precincts

To understand the environment in which alcohol-related violence often occurs, the Committee has conducted several inspections of different entertainment precincts and nightclub areas.

The areas inspected by the Committee include:

- Fortitude Valley (two inspections)
- Brisbane CBD
- Mooloolaba, Sunshine Coast
- Townsville
- Cairns

Typically the Committee was accompanied by police or liquor licensing officials during the inspections.

During each inspection Committee members discussed the inquiry with stakeholders on the ground including police, community support service providers, venue owners and managers, security staff, patrons and members of the community.

² This is possibly the first parliamentary committee in Australia to have a Facebook page. We will continue to monitor the effectiveness of this page for continued use in the remainder of this inquiry, and for future inquiries.

Matters observed and discussed during these inspections include:

- Many venues have introduced tempered glass
- ID scanning devices are utilised in a number of venues
- In some areas an earlier voluntary lock-out was imposed by venue owners
- Advice that drugs play a part in alcohol-related violence
- Public amenities, such as a lack of public toilets, caused problems with public urination and frustration of patrons, particularly after the lock-out
- The need for adequate and safe public transport to remove patrons from the entertainment precincts, and
- apart from police presence, an apparent lack of late night support from both government and non-government agencies (with the exception of charitable groups in some areas).

5.2 A youth perspective

To gain an understanding of the view of young Queenslanders on the issue of alcohol-related violence, the Committee has spoken to several groups of young people, including members of a Youth Parliament, young people attending the Sunshine Coast Youth Summit, and the Committee held a students forum in Townsville.

Youth Parliament

With guidance from Committee member Mr Steve Kilburn MP as Deputy Speaker members of the YMCA Youth Parliament 2009 presented speeches on alcohol-related violence. The issues raised by the youth members gave the Committee an insight into the perceptions of young people regarding alcohol and its effects. Matters raised by the youth members included:

- individual responsibility
- the role of parents in influencing their children's attitudes to drinking
- the Australian culture of enjoying a drink with mates
- the responsibilities of licensees and bar staff
- educational campaigns
- the relationship between socio-economic disadvantage and alcohol abuse
- the proliferation of licensed venues, and
- a growing culture of binge drinking.

The Sunshine Coast Youth Summit

The Committee attended the Sunshine Coast Youth Summit (SCYS) on Friday 9 October 2009. The summit is organised by young people for young people and provides a forum where young Queenslanders can discuss the matters that affect them and have a say on how these issues can be tackled.

Committee member, Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, attended the discussions with groups of approximately 60 young people aged between 16 and 25. Matters discussed included mental health and substances (including alcohol), and personal safety. Four members of the Committee attended a feed-back session where participants presented their solutions and observations on these issues.

Of relevance to the Committee's inquiry were the presentations by the groups which considered personal safety, and substances and mental health. Alcohol consumption and alcohol-related violence were key themes in both presentations.³

Student forum – Townsville

The Committee invited local students to attend a forum in Townsville. Information provided by the students to the Committee included:

- Education campaigns regarding the effects of alcohol should include shocking and graphic content, like the anti-smoking advertisements
- Many school students drink, or have peers who drink alcohol regularly
- Some students had completed studies on the harmful effects of alcohol on the teenage brain and believed that this provided useful information.

5.3 Public Hearings

Three public hearings have been held to date, in Townsville (16 October 2009), Cairns (19 October 2009), and Brisbane (30 October 2009). A list of witnesses is attached in **Appendix A**.

5.4 Briefings

In addition to the public hearings, the Committee has also received briefings from a number of people:

- Assistant Police Commissioner Peter Martin discussed the findings of his PhD research on the attitudes of police officers towards alcohol-related incidents in the course of their work.
- Professor Theo Vos advised the Committee on the impact of alcohol consumption upon health care services and the possible socio-economic impact.
- Mr Dennis Brinn, Nurse Unit Manager, Cairns Emergency Department, provided information on Drug and Alcohol Brief Intervention Team (DABIT), a pilot program where information is collected from persons attending the Emergency Department of Cairns Base Hospital, and other hospitals. Information such as the last venue(s) the person attended, how much alcohol they had consumed, and any other relevant information is collected anonymously.

DABIT is a relatively new program, and with recent amendments to the data collected there is little reliable data at present. Further, this collection of data relies heavily on the self-reporting of patients as to the amount of alcohol consumed. The DABIT team liaise with police in identifying any increase in violent assaults in particular venues frequented by the DABIT patients.

The Committee commends the government on this initiative and looks forward to considering any trends revealed by the collected data.

³ A report on the findings of the group from 2009 is available on the *Sunshine Coast Youth Partnership INC* website <http://www.sunshinecoastyouth.com/sc-youth-summit/?page_id=18>

6. MATTERS RAISED DURING CONSULTATIONS

Many issues have been raised during research and consultations and in submissions. Some of the issues under consideration by the Committee are outlined below.

6.1 Glass

Recent violent incidents involving glass have led to significant community debate and concern. The Committee notes that there are a number of owners of licensed venues in Queensland who have been issued with 'show cause' notices by the Government to show why those venues should not be forced, under the *Liquor Act 1992*, to implement tempered glass or polycarbonate drinking vessels in their venues.

Significant physical and psychological injuries can be caused by attacks involving glass, often referred to as 'glassing'. In a recent report Professor Paul Mazerolle and Dr Peter Cassematis evaluated studies on glassings and looked at whether the frequency of such incidents and injury severity could be reduced through alternative strategies, such as using polycarbonate or tempered glass, and rapid removal of empty glasses.⁴ The Committee was advised by Professor Mazerolle that he had found very little data on glassing.

Further, the Premier, in a letter dated 6 October 2009, requested that *the Committee, in consultation with industry and the community, give consideration to the feasibility and workability of transitioning, over time, to the complete phasing out of regular glass in licensed venues.* The Committee has agreed to consider this as part of its inquiry.

The Committee has not reached any conclusions on whether standard glass should be replaced with tempered glass or polycarbonate. This is a matter on which further research will be undertaken and recommendations will be made in the final report of the Committee.

6.2 Trading Hours and the 3am lockout

As stated above, the effects of trading hours and the lockout on alcohol-related violence were raised in the Committee's issues paper. The Committee notes the recent public debate around trading hours of licensed venues. These matters were raised many times during the various consultation activities undertaken by the Committee.

The Committee received a large number of submissions showing that there are a range of views of stakeholders on the effectiveness of amending trading hours and of the lockout in reducing alcohol-related violence. The Committee will consider all views, along with further information gathered during past consultation activities such as the recent licensed venue and precinct inspections, and information to be obtained from prospective consultations.

6.3 A New Drinking Culture?

There seems to have been a shift in the drinking culture of young people. The trend has shifted from having a drink as an element of socialisation, to drinking alcohol solely to become intoxicated. There is a need to address this cultural shift.

⁴ Dr P. Cassematis, Professor P Mazerolle, *Understanding Glassing Incidents on Licensed Premises: Dimensions, Prevention and Control*, 2009, Griffith University available at:
<http://www.olgr.qld.gov.au/resources/liquorDocs/Glassing_Incidents_Final_Report_Sept_2009.pdf>

Police statistics presented at the Committees Brisbane hearing by Professor Mazerolle show that, of the violent crimes brought to the attention of the police, there has been a marked increase in Queensland between 1996 – 2006 of 60% for males, and 45% for females aged 10 – 14, and around 45% for males, and 50% for females aged 15 – 19.⁵ This correlates with anecdotal evidence to suggest that violence perpetrated by females is increasing at an alarming rate. This is by no means an issue only in Queensland, it is a national and international problem.

Attention has been drawn to initiatives such as increasing awareness of standard drink measures. It seems there is a lack of understanding of the varying number of ‘standard drinks’ in different alcoholic beverages, particularly cocktails and pre-mixed drinks, and an increase in patrons’ recklessness as to the consequences of drinking to excess.

Young people have advised the Committee that many of their peers consumed alcohol on a regular basis, usually as a way of ‘fitting in’, and with the full consent and support of their parents, often by way of purchase of alcohol.

Students suggested to the committee that information detailing the effects of alcohol on a teenage brain, and advertisements such as the anti-smoking campaign should be shown often on television. Advice from those students suggested that the concerted, consistent message they received from the anti-smoking campaign meant they viewed smoking as bad. They believed that a campaign on the same level could alter the perceptions of young people towards alcohol.

6.4 Community Support Groups

Voluntary support is provided in some entertainment precincts during the night. One particular service is the NightWatch Project delivered by the Brisbane based charity ChaplainWatch, headed by Rev. Lance Mergard. The ChaplainWatch website describes the service they provide:

The Chaplains patrol the city from midnight to dawn looking in the darkened lanes and less obvious spots for anyone who seems to be in trouble. If it is not a police or security situation, they will stop and give assistance. It may be as simple as giving a bottle of water or a blanket. But it often requires more.

With professional first aid experience and extensive street-nous, the Chaplains make assessments as to a person’s welfare and have no hesitation to call for ambulance or police intervention. Left alone in their predicament the individual could find him or herself in a deeper crisis. Far too often the Chaplains are first on the scene. Quick intervention is important.⁶

During the first inspection of Fortitude Valley, members of the Committee met with Rev. Mergard and discussed the service his team provides. A representative of MurrieWatch Townsville attended the Townsville public hearing. This group provides support to Indigenous persons affected by alcohol. The Committee has been advised that this service is also provided in the Brisbane area.

At the Brisbane hearing, Superintendent Aitken, of the Queensland Police Service, advised that although isolated strategies will not solve problems of alcohol-related violence. Rather, a

⁵ Mazerolle P, *Youth violence Trends in Selected Jurisdictions in Australia (Police Statistics)*, Griffith University, July 2008

⁶ <<http://www.chaplainwatch.com/nightwatch.php>>. Viewed 6 November 2009.

combination of strategies including improved resources for support agencies is required to ease the load on police in dealing with intoxicated persons.⁷

The need for, and the funding of, community support groups and public sector agencies which could provide support to intoxicated persons during the peak weekend hours merit further consideration.

6.5 Networked ID Scanning Devices

Further inquiries will be made into the possibility of the introduction of a system of ID scanners which could be networked to allow venues within a precinct to share information, including scans of patrons' ID and CCTV images. This would aid venues to effect bans where patrons have caused a disturbance or are unduly intoxicated.

Some positive anecdotal evidence has been provided from venue owners and managers and police that this technology has had an impact in reducing the level of alcohol-related violence in licensed venues. This has been attributed to the fact that patrons know that their identification details have been collected by the venue and will be provided to police if an offence is committed.

An important issue raised with a system of networked ID scanners relates to privacy, in particular the collection and storage of this sensitive information. The committee recognises that the safety of patrons and the protection of their identity documents are paramount. These issues need to be closely considered before any recommendation can be made on this matter.

6.6 Intoxication as a Defence

Intoxication can be used as a defence to, or in mitigation of a prosecution under section 28 of the *Criminal Code Act 1899* (Qld), which provides:

28 Intoxication

- (1) The provisions of section 27 apply to the case of a person whose mind is disordered by intoxication or stupefaction caused without intention on his or her part by drugs or intoxicating liquor or by any other means.*
- (2) They do not apply to the case of a person who has, to any extent intentionally caused himself or herself to become intoxicated or stupefied, whether in order to afford excuse for the commission of an offence or not and whether his or her mind is disordered by the intoxication alone or in combination with some other agent.*
- (3) When an intention to cause a specific result is an element of an offence, intoxication, whether complete or partial, and whether intentional or unintentional, may be regarded for the purpose of ascertaining whether such an intention in fact existed.*

Anecdotal evidence suggests the presence of a community expectation that undue intoxication, when self-inflicted, should not be a defence to violent acts. The suitability of intoxication as a defence in the *Criminal Code Act 1899* (Qld), and the application and extent to which intoxication is cited as a defence or as a mitigating factor in alcohol-related violence will be further considered by the Committee.

⁷ Law, Justice and Safety Committee, *Hearing into Alcohol related Violence*, Transcript of Proceedings, Friday 30 October 2009, Superintendent Aitkin; at p. 6

6.7 Lack of data

From the material obtained to date it is clear that there is a lack of data on the incidence and causes of alcohol-related violence. This is acknowledged by the Queensland Government at page 35 of its submission (No. 74):

Dealing with alcohol-affected persons and the consequences of excessive alcohol consumption, both in terms of injury and crime, has continued to impact at both operational level and procedural/police levels. Determining at an aggregate level the exact impact for police is complex, limited by current data collection methods which are constrained by inconsistent and subjective assessments by frontline officers about the contribution of alcohol, and or poly-drug use to an incident.

...

It is not possible to quantify the precise level of alcohol-related violence suffered by ambulance workers as no specific data are held in relation to whether alcohol was a factor in these assaults.

At page 45 of the submission, the Government states:

Assessing the impact of alcohol related violence on police resources is problematic. Some contact with police remains unrecorded on official databases as some people, particularly vulnerable groups are diverted away from the criminal justice system. In addition, determining the contribution of alcohol to calls for service within private residencies is difficult to estimate in any valid manner due to lapse in time and/or a more pressing need to deal with the issue associated with the call for service.

Further, at page 47 of its submission, the Government states:

While the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) are able to provide data in relation to violent offences, it has not been possible, due to the nature of the data collected, to ascertain if alcohol was involved.

...

The economic cost of alcohol-related violence on QCS (Queensland Correctional Service) is unable to be quantified as departmental data indicates whether or not a person has been convicted of a violence related offence, but does not distinguish alcohol from non-alcohol related causes.

At the Brisbane hearing, Professor Paul Mazerolle commented on the lack of available data, in particular data relating to glassing attacks. He also spoke of the unreliability of police statistical data alone to determine the rates of adolescent violence, or the ‘*dark figure for crime and violence*’, in reference to the data that is not brought to the attention of the police for one reason or another.⁸

This apparent lack of comprehensive, reliable data relating to alcohol-related violence indicates that further research and more efficient, uniform collection of data may be required to fully assess the prevalence and impact of, and possible solutions to, alcohol-related violence.

⁸ Law, Justice and Safety Committee, *Hearing into Alcohol related Violence*, Transcript of Proceedings, Friday 30 October 2009, Professor Mazerolle; at p. 27

6.8 The role of illicit drugs

Violence in and around licensed venues, and in the wider community cannot be solely attributed to alcohol. The Committee acknowledges that violence is also often committed by people who have not consumed alcohol, and that illicit drugs often play a part, either on their own or mixed with alcohol.

The terms of reference provided to the Committee do not include a reference to drugs. The Committee considers that the timeframe provided to the Committee to finalise this inquiry into alcohol-related violence could not accommodate a wide-ranging and in-depth analysis of the problem of illicit drugs, and their apparent continued acceptance, particularly by young people, in our society.

The Committee has heard evidence to suggest that there is substantial under-reporting of drug use, recreational or otherwise, in our society. This includes the widespread use of drugs by patrons in licensed venues and other social areas.

Under-reporting on this issue is compounded by the inability of police to test for the presence of drugs in arrested persons (other than persons suspected of driving whilst under the influence of drugs). Information provided to the Committee suggests that in hospital situations any information on a patient's drug use is volunteered by the patient.

A number of different stakeholders have advised that drug taking is a regular and accepted activity of many patrons of licensed venues often in conjunction with the consumption of alcohol.

This is a matter which should be the focus of a separate Parliamentary Committee inquiry in the near future.

Recommendation 1

That the Parliament inquire into the role of drugs in our society and their impacts upon issues such as, but not limited to, violence in and around licensed venues.

Appendix A – Public Hearing Witnesses

Townsville – 16 October 2009

MurrieWatch Townsville

- Mr Eddie Savage, Coordinator

Queensland Police Service, Townsville District

- Inspector Brian Connors

Steve Jebb

- Licensed venue owner

Townsville City Licensees Association

- Mr Steve Flynn, President
- Mr Greg Pelligrini, Spokesperson

Queensland Ambulance Service

- Mr David Eeles, Assistant Commissioner

Cairns – 19 October 2009

Queensland Health, Cairns and Hinterland Health Service District

- Mr Kevin Freele, Executive Director, Mental Health Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Service (ATODS)
- Ms Joanne Brown, Acting Cluster Manager, ATODS

Queensland Police Service, Cairns District

- Chief Superintendent Paul Taylor
- Acting Inspector Dennis Fitzpatrick
- Sergeant Peter Fischer

Cairns City Licensees Safety Association

- Mr Paul Garnham, President
- Mr Dominic Davies, Vice-President

Cairns CBD Safety Summit

- Ms Joanne Lillywhite

Cairns Regional Council

- Mr Malcolm Robinson, Inner City Facilities Manager
- Ms Laree Verra, Community Safety Officer

Mr Brett Bourdujenko

Queensland Fire and Rescue Service, Far Northern Region

- Acting Superintendent Adrian Stafford

Appendix A – Public Hearing Witnesses

Brisbane – 30 October 2009

Queensland Police Service

- Acting Superintendent Peter Aitken
- Inspector Steve Donnelly
- Detective Inspector Tony Duncan

Queensland Hotels Association

- Mr Justin O'Connor, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Steven Aylward, Membership & Marketing Services Consultant
- Mr Bruce Mathieson, National Operations Officer, Australian Leisure and Hospitality Group

Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation

- Mike Sarquis - Executive Director
- Craig Turner - Deputy Executive Director
- David McKarzel - Director Policy and Research Branch
- Peter Reinhold - Manager Licensing (Liquor)

Clubs Queensland

- Mr Doug Flockhart, Chief Executive Officer, Clubs Queensland
- Mr Tony Murphy, CEO, Redcliffe Leagues Club
- Mr Dermot McEnroe, CEO, Northcliffe Surf Lifesaving Club

Professor Paul Mazerolle

- Director, Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance, Griffith University
- Program Leader: Violence Research and Prevention program, Griffith University