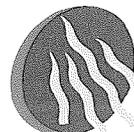




Hon Andrew Fraser MP
Member for Mount Coot-tha



**Queensland
Government**

Treasurer of Queensland

QTO- 02470

23 JUL 2008

Mr N Laurie
The Clerk of Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| LAID UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE | |
| No.: | 520813725 |
| | 24 JUL 2008 |
| MP: | Hon A Fraser |
| Clerk's Signature: | <i>M. Laurie</i> |

See Neil,

I refer to your letter of 6 June 2008 to the Honourable Desley Boyle MP, Minister for Tourism, Regional Development and Industry regarding petition number 1076-08 to the Queensland Legislative Assembly about the Hotel Metropole, Ipswich. As liquor matters fall within my portfolio responsibilities, your correspondence has been forwarded for my consideration.

The Hotel Metropole is located on the corner of Brisbane and Waghorn Streets, Ipswich and operates under a general licence with trading hours of 10am to 3am, Monday to Saturday and 10am to 12am, Sunday.

The petition concerns alleged noise and disturbance emanating from the hotel premises and requests Parliament 'immediately redress the problems by providing a scheme in the *Liquor Act 1992* that will enable persons who reside in the locality of the hotel to seek an effective remedy through the Chief Executive at any time'.

The *Liquor Act 1992* provides for a complaint initiated process, whereby local residents and affected persons may contact the Compliance Unit of Liquor Licensing Division and lodge a complaint. The telephone complaint number is (07) 3224 7108. All complaints are actively investigated and may result in punitive action against any licensee found in breach of the Act. It is considered that the current arrangements provide a reasonable avenue for investigation and redress.

The head petitioner, Mr Barry Ryan, has been offered direct access to senior liquor licensing officers on numerous occasions for advice, information and assistance to pursue his and other residents' representations in relation to the operation of the premises.

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While the present petition relates to noise emissions during current trading hours, it is relevant to note that on 4 April 2008 the licensee made application for an extended hours permit. The proposal is for the premises to trade from 10am to 5am, Monday to Sunday.

Advertising of the application, which is a requirement under the Act, has been undertaken and the period for public objection closed on 19 June 2008.

When all the information from stakeholders, local regulatory authorities and members of the public is obtained, the application will be assessed and a decision made by the Chief Executive.

Regardless of any decision by the Chief Executive, parties to the application aggrieved by the decision may appeal to the Commercial and Consumer Tribunal. The Tribunal is an independent body tasked with reviewing decisions of the Chief Executive

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

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

ANDREW FRASER