



## **SUBMISSION FOR THE CONSULTATION REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT**

### **INVESTIGATION INTO PROPOSED CHRISTMAS EVE PART-DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY 2019**

**DATE 30 August 2019**

#### **Introduction**

The Banana Hotel Motel is located relatively remotely in Central Queensland in a region known for cattle breeding and mining. Whilst our town is very small at 300 people we form a vital part of the communities identity and our clients bring their families, employees and guests to dine with us or stay at the motel with pride.

#### **Impact on Motel Guests**

The majority our guests inhouse during the Christmas period are largely private guests travelling very long distances enroute north or south to their own families. During the year our inhouse guests are generally blue collar or corporate workers Monday to Friday who are not inhouse for the Christmas period and these changes will actually **negatively affect the families not the corporates** that are more likely to be able to pay a premium for surcharges at this time. Have you considered the traveller that doesn't stop to rest or sleep because everything is closed might just not get there at all.

#### **Impact on Local Families**

The restaurant and motel services we offer on Christmas Eve are very important to the local community families. Due to our remote location more than 90% of our restaurant clients travel 20-60km just to come in for dinner. They work all year until dusk, they don't have the luxury of uber eats and takeaway and have to prepare their own meals every day. Our services gives them a night off and brings the them together to relax and enjoy this time with family and friends. These proposed changes threaten this special time.

The introduction of a part-day public holiday on Christmas Eve will result in the community and travellers having these services withdrawn as it is not desirable or even viable for them to be paying premium for their patronage. I assume the proposed change is to support sober habits and family time as Christmas yet **you have neglected to consider those of us not in the city.**

## **Impact on Staff**

**We manage our staff with respect without these proposed changes** and always prioritise the staff with children or those that need to travel home to family have these nights off. In addition a third of our staff are backpackers and reside on site so an early close due to the introduction of an early start the public holidays will not help our staff, it will only reduce their income, not improve it. The only alternative to closing early for us as a small family owned business is to request our key **managers all on salaries well above award** to work Christmas Eve in preference to our casual staff, and of course ourselves. So effectively the staff who have probably worked the most all year will be working, and myself and my partner who have 5 children, 3 of whom are under 9 will be working too. Merry Christmas small business owners.

Yours sincerely,

**Name Nicole Newman**  
**Position Managing Director**  
**Venue Banana Hotel Motel**