

Inquiry into the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Tourism and Events Sectors

Mr Rupert Shaw

Organisation Name: Bright Brewery

Your position or role: Operations Manager

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

Bright and the surrounds is heavily dependent on tourism. It employs the largest proportion of people.

During the restrictions

The hospitality industry (venues and accomodation) were severely hit. Business evaporate overnight as restrictions were put in place. Takeaway were minimal as the local population is very small.

Many casuals left the area as they were not entitled to Jobkeeper. Also jobkeeper could not be claimed for none residents (partners of people working and full timers)

Many Chefs and skilled workers left the industry. This has contributed to acute skills shortages now and this will continue into the future with no immigration or backpackers.

Jobkeeper saved many business from closing but after months of restrictions it became increasingly difficult to provide people with meaningful work.

Also businesses still had to fund super and insurance etc for those employed.

After Lockdown

Business has been +10-20% above the usual trend as people cannot holiday abroad.

The downside is that many businesses do not have the staff to open or serve the volume of tourists. This was a problem before the pandemic and now it is the number one problem for all businesses. Availability of any type of staff and the lack of affordable housing is a real issue. Businesses are receiving zero responses to job ads.

The local Shire have been able to implement any meaningful support for business. Many of the grants and initiatives are focused on the "community".

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:



Signature:

Rupert Shaw