To whom it may concern,

I was only made aware of the Consultation paper for clean air tonight.

I appreciate I have missed the deadline for community consultation.

I note that your review will not be touching backyard recreational fires which is quite disappointing.

See below - the recreational fires when causing significant air pollution including asthma and headaches and impact on ability to breathe fresh air in our home. Council have advised they can't really do anything about it either so this is a significant gap in regulation.

We have a 14 month old who ends up shut up inside unable to breathe in sweltering heat because as long as someone throws a sausage or potato on some smoke it's allowed.

I'd appreciate this issue being raised in the appropriate forum as I highly doubt that We are the only ones impacted by this issue (especially with more of us now living in highly dense residential suburbs like [redacted] and the regulations were likely Made many years ago when this may not have been the case).

Regards
A [redacted]
Mobile [redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [redacted]
Date: 6 December 2016
To: [redacted]
Subject: Response from Council - Rules and regulations regarding backyard fires

Good Afternoon A [redacted]

Thank you for your email in relation to the Rules and Regulations regarding backyard fires.

Council can provide you with the following link below:


Please take particular note of section 4A.
To whom it may concern,

Can you please forward this onto the relevant departments for a response (imagine it would be both WER and Sustainability).

We live in a densely populated area and have two neighbours that continue to light backyard fires for recreation purposes (not BBQ).

The smoke from the fires blows into our house and we have no choice but to close up every window and door and miss out on fresh air in our home and suffer the heat. We have a young baby and I suffer asthma so it is a far from ideal situation.

Depending on the captain in charge, we have received conflicting advice from the fire department when we have queried whether this is allowed given the air pollution it continues to cause, the time of year (30+degree days), High fire danger and the impact it is having on our enjoyment of our property.

They have advised that council is responsible for policing the clean air act and that there is nothing they can really do re enforcement.

When we've spoken to the rangers at council they have offered to come and have a chat to both neighbours and threaten fines re air pollution however they have also advised that if the people were to put a sausage in the fire and claim they were bbqing then there is not a lot they can do either. And it is also difficult to prove the air pollution after the fact (with council likely responding the following day from any reports).

We have had several discussions with the neighbours ourselves (and this is the preferred Option for continuing to keep things civil) however we are seeking
clarification so that we can have a clear discussion with them on what is
allowed and what's not.

I'm not sure why the act exists if there is no way of enforcing it?

Could you please provide some clarification to assist in discussions with our
neighbours.

Thank you in advance,

Sent from my iPhone

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