



4 June 2019

### **Committee seeking input on Sydney's lockdown laws**

Is there the proper balance between community safety and maintaining a vibrant night-time economy in Sydney? The Parliament of NSW has established a select committee to examine this issue and it is now calling for input from interested parties.

"The Committee has been set-up to look at issues affecting Sydney's night-time economy. This includes community health and safety but also ways to ensure that Sydney remains an attractive place to visit with plenty of options for people to enjoy the city after-hours", said the Hon Natalie Ward MLC, Committee Chair.

"We want people to enjoy a night out in Sydney's entertainment districts without the fear or threat of violence. We also want to ensure that there are options available for those people who are able to enjoy Sydney's nightlife responsibly. Sydney remains one of the world's leading cities and we want to make sure that residents and visitors can enjoy all that Sydney has to offer."

"In recent years, the Government has introduced laws which have led to a reduction in non-domestic violent assaults in the Sydney CBD and Kings Cross. However, people have also argued that this legislation has had an adverse effect on certain businesses and the availability of entertainment."

"We will be looking at the effect of the lockdown laws on businesses in Sydney. We also want to hear people's experiences, either visiting these places for entertainment or those on the front lines, dealing with health and safety problems."

"We know there are strong feelings on both sides of this debate, and we are hoping to hear from as many people and organisations as possible. We would welcome submissions from anyone with an interest in this issue and will be holding public hearings in August."

The closing date for submissions to the inquiry is **Tuesday, 2 July**. Submissions can be made by email, post or through the committee's webpage.

Public hearings will take place on **5 August** and **12 August**. The committee is also planning to visit affected areas.

Further information on the Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Night Time Economy, including the full terms of reference for the inquiry can be found on the [committee's webpage](#).

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