

Response to questions taken on notice

Night Time Industries Association



**Email to:** NightTimeEconomy@parliament.nsw.gov.au

**Date:** 23.08.2019

---

## **Re: Submission to the inquiry into Sydney's Night Time Economy**

Dear Committee

I refer to the evidence given by me during the above inquiry. During my evidence, the Honourable Kevin Connolly asked how the NTIA's recommendations might be prioritised. We have given some thought to this and now provide you with the recommendations grouped into subject matter areas, and with a view to an order of priority.

### **Building a strong foundation**

The following recommendations are fundamental to the creation of an environment which will allow the Night Time Economy to operate effectively.

1. Develop and articulate a vision for NSW's NTE, supported by a detailed strategy
2. Appoint an accountable and appropriately resourced night time champion to implement the vision  
And coordinate a whole-of-government approach to the sector.
3. Make the night time champion accountable for ensuring collaborative working relationships across NTE industry stakeholders and police and health, in line with Government's vision.

### **Jobs, Business and the Economy**

Implementation of the following recommendations will directly create jobs, improve business revenues and increase the contribution to GDP from the night time economy.

#### *Lockout, liquor freeze and Purple Flag*

1. Repeal the 1:30am last entry and 3am cessation of service aspects of the Lockout laws.
2. Remove the liquor freeze and move towards a process where the clustering of venues which enhance safety and vibrancy are embraced, without creating an oversupply in one area.
3. Establish a benchmark for successful night time precincts, by piloting Purple Flag in two locations in Sydney, in partnership with local councils, relevant industry groups and liquor accords.

#### *Creativity as an economic driver*



1. Recognise creativity itself as an economic driver and leverage the state's assets including its (a) arts and cultural sector and (b) NTE to enhance innovation outcomes.
2. Liberate the creative industries from one size fits all inflexible regulation, in favour of a balanced framework that assesses individual applications on their merits.

#### *Removing barriers that stifle business*

1. Introduce a one stop shop for approvals, modelled on successful systems in other cities, that streamlines approval processes for businesses in the NTE.
2. Better management of noise issues for commercial operators, including:
  - a. Creating a one-stop shop for noise complaints and management in NSW for licensed premises and commercial entertainment businesses
  - b. Streamlining laws governing noise issues and put in place guidelines for venue operators developed through consultation with industry and the community
  - c. Implementing Agent of Change.
3. Implement the Music and Arts Economy NSW Parliamentary Inquiry recommendations ensuring delivery through an empowered Night Time Economy champion.

#### *Visitor Economy/Brand/Tourism*

Implementation of the following recommendations will directly aid the visitor economy, improve Sydney's brand and attract tourism:

1. Repeal the Lockout laws in order to reverse the brand damage to Sydney, and Promote Sydney / NSW as "open", recognising the NTE as a core part of the offering.
2. Leverage improving public transport infrastructure to encourage engagement with Sydney's NTE including the provision of free services in appropriate circumstances.
3. Leverage an improving NTE narrative as a basis for improving Sydney and NSW ability to attract global talent.

#### *Leaving the house – being out/creativity/socialisation*

Implementation of the following recommendations will directly improve civic cohesion, and the social fabric of communities in NSW:

1. Work with NTE stakeholders including the private sector and the City of Sydney to remind NSW consumers of the value of the "out experience".
2. Formally recognise the positive contribution that community getting together during its leisure time can have in terms of mental health, reducing social isolation and encouraging the positive benefits of social interaction.



Night Time  
Industries  
Association

We hope this is of assistance to the Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Rodrigues  
Chair, Night Time Industries Association