

Responses received to additional questions

Committee for Sydney
Mr Michael Rose

1. What is your view of having the Small Business Commissioner co-ordinate night time economy policy?

a) Would this be best done stand alone, or in company with the Department of Premier and Cabinet?

The Committee for Sydney recognises the important role of the Small Business Commissioner in acting as a champion for the Small Business Sector. However, we do not feel that the overall responsibility for Sydney's night-time economy should sit within the remit of the Commissioner.

The night-time economy involves many participants beyond small business including government departments, local government, police, community organisations, cultural and educational institutions and a variety of businesses. These require a high degree of co-ordination if the full potential of the night-time economy in Sydney is to be realised.

In our report, Sydney as a 24-hour City, the Committee advocates the appointment of a coordinating figure to bring together different agencies and participants in the night-time economy. We do not endorse a particular governance model but recommend that the figure should be a highly effective individual who is invested with the power and authority to bring parties together to develop a vision and drive towards it. We also suggest that the figure should sit at the heart of government and be strongly endorsed by the Premier on behalf of NSW Government. We therefore feel that placing a coordinating figure within the Department for Premier and Cabinet is an option worth serious consideration.