

**Submission  
No 60**

## **MEASURES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG- RELATED VIOLENCE**

**Organisation:** Mental Health Association NSW  
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**Date Received:** 15/08/2014



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Vice-Regal Patron  
Her Excellency  
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Marie Bashir AC CVO  
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Facing Anxiety Program  
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Mental Health  
Promotion including  
Mental Health  
Month NSW

14th August 2014

The Committee Manager  
Committee on Law and Safety  
Parliament House  
Macquarie St  
Sydney NSW 2000  
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To the Members of the Law and Safety Committee,

RE: Inquiry into Measures to Reduce Alcohol and Drug-Related  
Violence

It has come to the attention of the Mental Health Association NSW (MHA) that the due date for submission to this Inquiry into Measures to Reduce Alcohol and Drug-Related Violence (August 15<sup>th</sup> 2014) has been set three weeks before the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) is due to release its 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2014 Recorded Crime Statistics Report (September 4<sup>th</sup> 2014).

Arguably, the data contained in the upcoming report will be the most relevant objective indicator of the “effectiveness of the recent measures to reduce alcohol and drug related violence in the Sydney Central Business District” (Terms of Reference), which this inquiry purports as its primary purpose.

In the interest of utilising the information in this major, unreleased data source, MHA recommends that:

- (a) The Inquiry extend its deadline for submissions beyond the release date of the BOCSAR data; or
- (b) The Inquiry request a second round of submissions beyond the release date of the BOCSAR data; and/or
- (c) The NSW Government give an undertaking to further review the efficacy of the recent measures to reduce alcohol and drug related violence in the Sydney CBD at a time in which statistically significant data is available.

Yours sincerely,



Elizabeth Priestley  
CEO, Mental Health Association NSW

