

**Submission
No 45**

MEASURES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG-RELATED VIOLENCE

Name: Name Suppressed
Date Received: 14/08/2014

Partially Confidential

Lockout Laws submission

Part owner of [REDACTED]

We are one of Sydney's first small bars, having been around since 2009

In that time we have had zero alcohol related incidents, and four noise complaints registered

We have a number of loyal customers who live in the area representing about 40% of our trade, most of whom work in the creative industries, the remaining 60% of our trade would be from one off visits and walk ins. We pride ourselves on the inclusive, friendly, creative dynamic that exists in the bar, with no bad attitudes accepted from customers via an effective filter from initial security on the door and through staff and other customer vigilance

We used to employ 2 security staff and 5 bar staff on a part time basis, and 1 bar manager on a full time basis, and have an active and healthy music policy employing DJs 3 nights a week. We are an important part of the live music chain in the city, with many DJs and bands having first played in public at [REDACTED] before gaining the confidence and experience to move on to bigger venues and festivals

Since the lockout laws were implemented we have experienced:

- a 75% reduction in trade from one off visits and walk ins (as Oxford Street is no longer a nightlife destination venue, people preferring instead to go out in areas not covered by lock out laws)
- a reduction in staff, removing 1 security position, and 2 staff positions
- a reduction in DJ bookings by 33%
- an overall contraction of revenue and bottom line of over 30%
- an increase in visits by groups of up to twelve uniformed police spending excessive time going over the same DA and licencing paperwork

We believe we are being punished unreasonably for an issue we have never contributed to, and would like the lock out laws to be restricted to venues with a track record of alcohol related incidents