

**Submission
No 131**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Organisation: The Sydney Harbour Charter Vessel Liquor Accord

Date Received: 13 June 2019

The Sydney Harbour Liquor Accord supports a safe and vibrant night time economy. We believe that while well intentioned, the current regulations and "lock out laws" have been detrimental to the city's reputation as an international destination.

As charter vessel operators we are on the front line of the tourism industry. Many visitors see Sydney's iconic harbour as a must see stop during their stay, but without the support of a strong night time offering, many visitors have become disillusioned by the city as a whole. Many operators report hearing tourists use words such as "dead" and "boring" to describe Sydney, which is heartbreaking for us as locals, and also concerning as business operators relying on the tourism market.

While we agree that community safety is of paramount importance, we do not agree with the premise that the only way to achieve a safe city is by shutting it down.

We believe that extended trading hours for hospitality venues, reduced regulations, more investment in music and cultural events, and better protections for established businesses from noise complaints would all be positive outcomes from this review.