

**Submission
No 301**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Organisation: Hollywood Hotel

Date Received: 29 June 2019

I am making a submission to the Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Nighttime Economy that are reviewing Sydneys Draconian Lock Out Laws.

My name is Mark Symons and I am the Licensee of the faded grand dame of Surry Hills, Hollywood Hotel. I have been at the hotel since 1998 and have seen many changes in the area, In my experience nothing has been more drastic than the Lock Out Laws introduced in 2014.

Who would thought that in 2019 we are still championing to have these draconian laws repealed.
#KeepSydneyOpen

It is has been not without severe stress that we are still here today to able to make this submission whereas many of our neighbours have not been financially/emotionally able to survive and have to cease trading. We have seen a steady in decline in revenue since the lock outs took real control , that is when people started changing their reasons to visit the affected areas of the lock out and prefer to stay on peripheral boundaries , where they were not encountering the same harsh measures. We are now sitting 35% less in annual revenue , this is of course has the flow on effect of staffing, engaging artists for live music, dj's also. It has meant that we have had to priotise maintenance on an ageing building. Try doing that on a shoestring budget and keeping your doors open and staff employed.

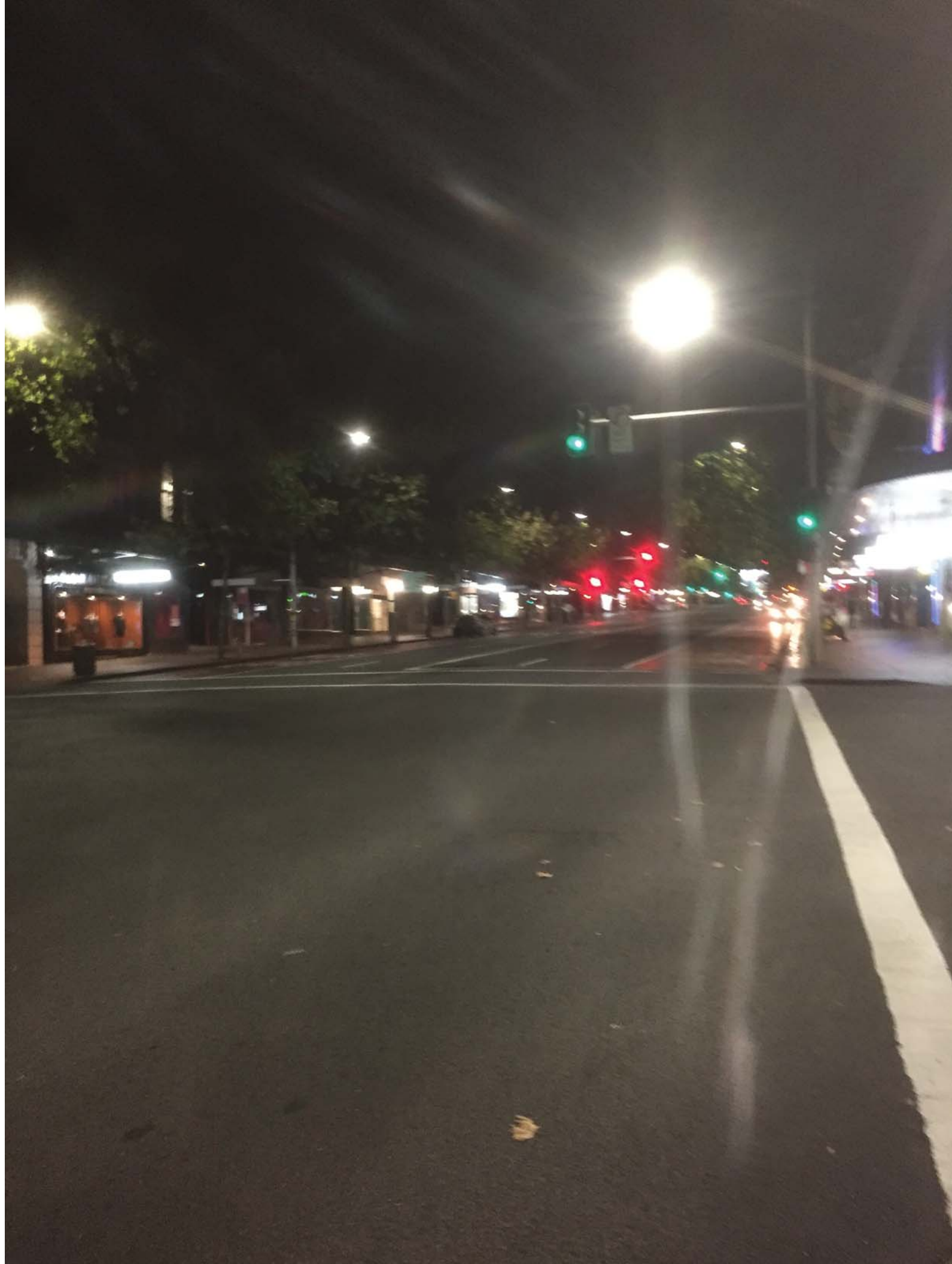
I attach random shots of the surrounding areas of the Hotel and also Oxford Street, the area is desolate at times, you would not comprehend that you are supposed to be in a world class City, it makes me embarrassed for visitors to our City. Also consider the safety factor of walking alone at night through these streets. In recent articles it is polled that visitors are skipping Sydney for the nightlife of the other capital cities and in the night time economy it 's costing Sydney billions.

Sydneys Lock Out laws have been relaxed during New Years Eve and Mardi Gras in the past , though the Hollywood was no a beneficiary of the Mardi Gras relaxation as again we were out of that designated zone, sometimes you just want to close the doors but nevertheless Sydney did not collapse!

I would like to see a repeal of the lock out laws, strategies put in place so people can have a safe night out, access late night public transport and have a choice of venues to move between. Sydneys nightlife cannot be centred around a Casino !!!!

Yours sincerely

Mark Symons
Licensee /Hollywood Hotel







HOTEL HOLLYWOOD



HOTEL HOLLYWOOD



