

**Submission
No 464**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Organisation: William Grant & Sons Australia

Date Received: 3 July 2019



3 July 2019

The Hon. Natalie Ward MLC
Chair, Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Night Time Economy
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms. Ward

Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Night Time Economy

I write on behalf of William Grant & Sons Australia in support of the submission lodged by Spirits & Cocktails Australia to the Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Night Time Economy.

William Grant & Sons employs approximately 60 Australians across our Sydney and interstate offices in Australia and New Zealand, and makes a significant contribution to the annual economic contribution via excise taxes and production arrangements. Our brands include Hendrick's Gin, Glenfiddich, and The Balvenie. We are a member of Spirits & Cocktails Australia, Alcohol Beverages Australia (ABA) and Spirits NZ. We co-fund the Alcohol Beverages Advertising Code (ABAC), a co-regulation scheme with government to assure marketing responsibility and compliance, and Drinkwise, the social campaigning and educational body, to help consumers better understand alcohol, and to make informed and responsible consumption decisions.

William Grant & Sons believes it is possible to promote a vibrant Sydney nightlife whilst also maintaining a safe environment for all people enjoying the Sydney CBD. We fully support the recommendations set out in the Spirits & Cocktails Australia submission:

1. Simultaneously amend/repeal prohibitions on spirits service in the *Liquor Act 2007* (NSW) sch 4, s 5 and *Liquor Regulation 2018* (NSW) pt 7, div 1, cl 92 to remove beverage-specific restrictions after midnight.
2. Amend the CBD Plan of Management regulations so that only venues with a poor compliance record are subject to lockouts and related restrictions.
3. Simplify Liquor & Gaming NSW guidelines to licensees to the same effect so they focus on behaviour rather than beverage choice. Guidance and RSA should focus more precisely on targeting irresponsible behaviour and discouraging excessive/rapid consumption across the board, regardless of the type of alcohol or the vessel in which it is served.

4. Streamline and simplify the liquor licence application process to create a one-stop shop for applications, renewals, development applications and exemption requests.

Adopting these recommendations will enable Sydney to promote a vibrant night-time economy and enhance its reputation as a global city without compromising individual and community safety.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Rochester', written in a cursive style.

Colin Rochester
Managing Director