Submission No 563

# SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

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Contact Officer: Emese Wolf -

5 July 2019

The Hon Natalie Ward MLC Parliament of New South Wales Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Attention: The Hon Natalie Ward MLC

Dear Ms Ward,

# Subject: Night Time Economy Parliamentary Inquiry

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Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the night time economy Parliamentary Inquiry. Randwick City Council is in the process of undertaking a night time economy study in recognition of the substantial socio-economic benefits that can be gained from supporting a greater diversity of night time activities and experiences. Council offers the following comments with regards to our recent research and findings on the night time economy.

# **Benefits of the Night Time Economy**

There is growing recognition globally and nationally of the significant economic, social and cultural benefits a diverse night time economy can offer to a local community. A well-planned and managed night time economy can make a significant contribution to local economies, from supporting businesses and the creative sector, to facilitating job creation and encouraging greater visitation. Having a range of exciting evening events and activities on offer can contribute to more vibrant, safer and rejuvenated town centres. In addition, a thriving night time economy can foster a more connected, cohesive and resilient community, contributing substantially to a city's social capital.

## **Economic Benefits**

Research of Australia's night time economy has shown that it generates significant economic output and if well managed and supported it will continue to grow and diversify. At a local level, councils have the potential to reap substantial economic benefits associated with a well-cultivated and diverse night time economy. Growth and diversification of the night time economy encourages increase patronage of local businesses over longer and different time periods, stimulating job creation, particularly flexible employment; supports cultural and creative sectors; boosts local tourism; and further drives local industries such as food, beverage and retail and non-core activities such as transport and security. Local government has a role to lead, coordinate and manage night time economy initiatives, to encourage partnerships and collaborate with businesses, industry, institutions and government.

# Social and Cultural Benefits

The night time economy delivers substantial social and cultural benefits to local communities. A diverse range of evening activities and experiences provides greater social connection and

<b>English</b> If you need help to understand this letter, please come to Council's Customer Service Centre and ask for assistance in your language or you can contact the Telephone Interpreter Service (TIS) on 131 450 and ask them to contact Council on 1300 722 542.	Greek Αν χρειάζεστε βοήθεια για να καταλάβετε αυτή την επιστολή, παρακαλείστε να έρθετε στο Κέντρο Εζυπηρέτησης Πελατών της Δημαρχίας (Council Customer Service Centre) και να ζητήσετε βοήθεια στη γλώσσα σας ή τηλεφωνήστε στην Τηλεφωνική Υπηρεσία Διερμηνέων (Telephone Interpreter Service — TIS) τηλ. 131 450 και να ζητήσετε να επικοινωνήσουν με τη Δημαρχία τηλ. 1300 722 542.	<b>Italian</b> Se avete bisogno di aiuto per capire il contenuto di questa lettera, recatevi presso il Customer Service Centre del Municipio dove potrete chiedere di essere assistiti nella vostra lingua: oppure mettetevi in contatto con il Servizio Telefonico Interpreti (TIS) al 131 450 e chiedete loro di mettersi in contatto col Municipio al 1300 722 542.
<b>Croatian</b> Ako vam je potrebna pomoć da biste razumjeli ovo pismo, molimo dođite u Općinski uslužni centar za klijente (Council's Customer Service Centre) i zatražite pomoć na svom jeziku, ili možete nazvati Telefonsku službu tumača (TIS) na 131 450 i zamoliti njih da nazovu Općinu na 1300 722 542.	<b>Spanish</b> A la persona que necesite ayuda para entender esta carta se le ruega venir al Centro de Servicios para Clientes [Customer Service Centre] de la Municipalidad y pedir asistencia en su propio idioma, o bien ponerse en contacto con el Servicio Telefónico de Intérpretes ["TIS"], número 131 450, para pedir que le comuniquen con la Municipalidad, cuyo teléfono es 1300 722 542.	Vietnamese Nếu qui vị không hiểu là thơ này và cần sự giúp đờ, mới qui vị đến Trung Tâm Dịch Vụ Hướng Dẫn Khách Hàng của Hội Đồng Thành Phố (Council's Customer Service Centre) để có người nói ngôn ngữ của qui vị giúp hay qui vị có thể liên lạc Dịch Vụ Thông Dịch qua Điện Thoại (TIS) ở số 131 450 và yêu cầu họ liên lạc với Hội Đồng Thành Phố (Council) ở số 1300 722 542.
<b>Polish</b> Jeśli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu treści tego pisma, przyjdź do punktu obsługi klientów (Customer Service Centre) przy Radzie Miejskiej i poproś o pomoc w języku polskim, albo zadzwoń do Telefonicznego Biura Tłumaczy (Telephone Interpreter Service TIS) pod numer 131 450 i poproś o skontaktowanie się z Radą Miejską (Council) pod numerem 1300 722 542.	<b>Indonesian</b> Jika Anda memerlukan bantuan untuk memahami surat ini, silakan datang ke Pusat Pelayanan Pelanggan (Customer Service Centre) Pemerintah Kotamadya (Council) dan mintalah untuk bantuan dalam bahasa Anda, atau Anda dapat menghubungi Jasa Juru Bahasa Telepon (Telephone Interpreter Service - TIS) pada nomor 131 450 dan meminta supaya mereka menghubungi Pemerintah Kotamadya pada nomor 1300 722 542.	<b>Turkish</b> Bu mektubu anlamak için yardıma ihtiyacınız varsa, lütfen Belediye'nin Müşteri Hizmetleri Merkezi'ne gelip kendi dilinizde yardım isteyiniz veya 131 450'den Telefonla Tercüme Servisi'ni (TIS) arayarak onlardan 1300 722 542 numaradan Belediye ile ilişkiye geçmelerini isteyiniz.
Hungarian Amennyiben a levél tartalmát nem érti és segítségre van szüksége, kérjük látogassa meg a Tanácsház Ügyfél Szolgálatát (Customer Service Centre), ahol magyar nyelven kaphat felvilágosítást, vagy hívja a Telefon Tolmács Szolgálatot (TIS) a 131 450 telefonszámon és kérje, hogy kapcsolják a Tanácsházat a 1300 722 542 telefonszámon.	<b>Czech</b> Jestliže potřebujete pomoc při porozumění tohoto dopisu, navštivte prosim naše Středisko služeb pro veřejnost (Council's Customer Service Centre) a požádejte o poskytnutí pomoci ve vaší řečí anebo zavolejte Telefonní tlumočnickou službu (TIS) na tel. čísle 131 450 a požádejte je, aby oni zavolali Městský úřad Randwick na tel. čísle 1300 722 542.	Arabic إذا أردت مُساعدة لفهم هذه الرسالة، نرجوك الحضور إلى مركز خدمة عملاء المجلس واطلُب المُساعدة في لغتك، أو يُمكنك الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الهاتفية (TIS) على ماتف رقم 450 131 واطلُب منهم الاتصال بالمجلس على رقم 542 527 1300.
Chinese 如果你需要人幫助你了解這封信的內容, 請來市政會顧客服務中心要求翻譯服務, 或者與電話傳譯服務(TIS)聯係,號碼是 131 450。請他們幫助你打電話給市政會, 號碼是1300 722 542。	Russian Если Вам требуется помощь, чтобы разобраться в этом письме, то, пожалуйста, обратитесь в Муниципальный Центр Обслуживания Клиентов и попросите оказать Вам помощь на Вашем языке или же Вы можете позвонить в Телефонную Службу Переводчиков (TIS) по номеру 131 450 и попросить их связаться с Муниципалитетом по номеру 1300 722 542.	Serbian Ако вам треба помођ да разумете ово писмо, молимо вас да дођете до Центра за услуге муштеријама при Општини (Customer Service Centre) и замолите их да вам помогну на вашем језику, или можете назвати Телефонску преводилачку службу (TIS) на 131 450 и замолите их да вас повежу са Општином на 1300 722 542.

engagement opportunities, helping to enhance community life and increase participation. These outcomes are particularly important to a community with a mix of cultures, religions, age groups and abilities.

The night time economy has strong synergies with the music and creative sectors. The emersion of arts, live music, performance and cultural events provides opportunities for artistic exchange and expression, while encouraging the community to enjoy the cultural life of the City.

Importantly, a night time economy that is diverse and welcoming promotes greater citizen security and improves perception of personal safety. By encouraging a wider demography to frequent local businesses, social/cultural venues and public spaces, the streets are lively and safer in the evening time.

#### Place Making and Urban Renewal

The night time economy can play an integral role in the urban re-generation and revitalisation of towns and city centres, helping to create a sense of place and identity, and fostering a strong sense of belonging and pride for those who live in it.

The successful management of the night time economy requires a placed based approach to understand the characteristics and needs of precincts. A vibrant night time economy can help build reputation, reinforce local character, and inspire new uses of public space. Having a mix of people frequenting local businesses and cultural venues in the night time helps revitalise urban areas that otherwise become deserted at night. This in turn can have a positive flow on effect in terms of increased visitation and revenue for local businesses, and greater safety and vitality of the public domain.

#### Land Use and Noise Conflicts

The mixed use nature of development in town centres and neighbourhood centres attract increasing numbers of people to live in or nearby commercial precincts that trade in the evening. While living within or adjacent to a town or neighbourhood centre offers opportunities to access a range of services, retailing, dining and cafes and other entertainment facilities, it also raises the potential for amenity impacts and conflicts. This is an important consideration in planning for a successful night time economy.

#### **Transport and Access**

Efficient, reliable and flexible public transport is key to supporting a thriving night time economy. Poor availability of late night transport means people end up spending more time in night precincts after businesses have closed, leading to frustration and competition for scarce transport services, and increasing potential for violence and anti-social behaviour. Councils can play a key role in advocating for more frequent public transport, encouraging active transport and supporting shared transport and taxi services.

# Supporting the Night Time Economy in Randwick City

In the context of Randwick City, if nothing is done to cultivate, strengthen and diversify the night time economy, it would have far reaching ramifications for the Randwick City's competitive capacity, particularly with respect to encouraging and retaining certain sectors of the workforce, and the investment in and the amenity of our town centres. Not supporting the night time economy would

mean the loss of potential economic growth, as well as missed opportunities to attract talented workers, new residents, and businesses as well as creatives and artists in the Randwick City local area. Furthermore, it would be a missed opportunity to enhance the liveliness and safety of Randwick City's public spaces in the night time, and encouraging a geographic spread of the night time events and experiences that would enrich the social and cultural life of Randwick City. ۰.

A balanced night time economy catering to a broad demographic and which encourages active community participation is important given Randwick City's growing and changing population, smaller household sizes, high rates of apartment living and emergence of flexibility outside traditional 9am to 5pm working hours. Social interaction and place making opportunities will become more vital as a mitigation measure to address social isolation issues and to enhance liveability and productivity of the Randwick City Local Government Area.

## **Randwick City's Existing Night Time Economy**

Council undertook an audit on a number of the Randwick City town and neighbourhood centres to ascertain the level of activity at night. The audits captured areas that have thriving existing night time economies and areas where night time activity is substantially limited. The audits identified that Randwick City's existing night time economy is confined mostly to our town and neighbourhood centres. Night time activity is generally focused around hospitality – dining and drinking activities within these centres. To expand the opportunities for the community to participate in the night time economy Council is in the process of developing a night time economy study.

## Randwick City's Night Time Economy Study

The Randwick City Night Time Economy Study seeks to identify opportunities to activate and diversify Randwick City's night time economy. The study is being prepared to address present-day challenges associated with a night time economy that is lacking in diversity and geographic spread. The study has employed a multi-prolonged approach, bringing together a strong research base on national and international best practices for night time activation, industry advice, extensive town centre audits of evening activity, as well as community ideas and experiences derived from a successful perception survey.

## Randwick City Night Time Economy Advisory Committee

The study is been guided by input from the Randwick City Night Time Economy Advisory Committee which was founded in 2018. The Committee comprises of a mix of industry leaders and community members with expertise in live music and performing arts, small bars, retailing, pop ups and temporary activations, performance space and event management, market research, urban design and criminology. The principal role of the committee in the preparation of the study has been to:

- Provide strategic advice on the development of the night time economy in Randwick City, including identification of key issues and barriers affecting local businesses and the creative and cultural sectors,
- Make realistic and practical recommendations on the implementation of initiatives to enrich and diversify the night time economy; and
- Advise Council in communication and consultation with night time economy stakeholders.

The Committee has been instrumental in providing a cross-sector approach to underpin the development of the Study. It has provided a forum for bringing together diverse ideas and inputs, allowing Council to further understand the opportunities, challenges and synergies between various elements that contribute to a thriving, sustainable and inclusive night time economy.

## **Policing and Security**

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Council has liaised with the Eastern Beaches Police Area Command to further understand law and order issues specific to the night time economy of Randwick City. Some key feedback included:

- There was support for small bars as these venues generally have a lower level of risk associated with alcohol induced anti-social behaviour compared to large scale licensed venues such as pubs and clubs.
- Frequent late night transport options are important to reduce the critical mass of patrons in public areas after venues close.
- Lighting of centres and surrounding streets and laneways is essential to improving safety at night.

Council is cognisant of the importance of ensuring adequate police resources are available when they are required.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue. Should you have any queries regarding this submission please contact Emese Wolf, Strategic Planner on

Yours faithfully, Alan Brisht Manager, Strate ic Punning