

Submission
No 19

**INQUIRY INTO LIQUOR AMENDMENT (MUSIC
FESTIVALS) REGULATION 2019 AND GAMING AND
LIQUOR ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT (MUSIC
FESTIVALS) REGULATION 2019**

Organisation: Secret Sounds Group

Date Received: 5 July 2019

Wednesday 3rd July 2019
Legislative Council Regulation Committee
NSW Legislative Council
Parliament House
6 Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Committee,

Inquiry into Liquor Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019 and Gaming and Liquor Administration Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019

As Co-CEO of Secret Sounds Group I would like to thank the parliament for the opportunity to contribute to this inquiry into Liquor Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019 and Gaming and Liquor Administration Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019.

Industry Context

- *According to Live Performance Australia's National Ticket Music Ticket Attendance and Revenue Report 2017*
 - *Festivals attracted almost 400,000 people to attend a contemporary music festival in NSW*
 - *Festivals in NSW contributed the third highest Live Performance ticket sales revenue (\$55 million) after contemporary music concerts and theatre*
 - *For the first time since 2010, the live performance revenue share for NSW decreased from 37.1% in 2016 to 32.7% in 2017.¹*

Issues:

- *Use of the Liquor Act to address a complex health and safety issue*
- *Definitions do not fit with current industry understanding (i.e. concert vs festival)*
- *Discretionary power allows for subjective decisions to be made by ILGA*
- *Significantly increased police powers*

Recommendations

- Remove the current regulations
 - Manage the sale and supply of liquor through existing suitable license arrangements
 - Manage health-related risks at music festivals through NSW Health
- Establish a Regulatory Roundtable for Festivals in NSW including industry peak body the AFA
- Significantly increase investment in Peer-based Harm Reduction Services
- Work with health, festival and drug experts to develop pill-testing trials at permanent and festival-based locations

I wholeheartedly support the views of the AFA submission.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Paul Piticco
Co-CEO
Secret Sounds Group