

**Submission
No 85**

**INQUIRY INTO GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST
BILL 2021**

Organisation: Playbill Venues
Date Received: 14 January 2022

12th January 2022

Submission for the Select Committee

Dear Chair,

Playbill Venues, is a privately owned company that manages and operates the Hordern Pavilion, under a lease with the Centennial & Moore Park Trust. The lease is held by the PlayOn Group, a partnership between Playbill Venues and the Sydney Swans.

Playbill Venues is a part of the Playbill Group, a proud Australian owned family business that has operated at the heart of the entertainment industry for over 60 years. The Hordern, has always been a significant Sydney landmark since it opened in 1924. Now known as a multi-use entertainment facility and world renowned as a rock concert venue, the Hordern Pavilion was originally constructed to meet the increasing popularity of the Royal Easter Show.

A music venue since the early 70's it has been the venue for all the world's greatest musicians including Frank Sinatra, Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder, Bob Marley, Queen, Elton John, David Bowie, INXS..... In 1984, the venue was first used by Mardi Gras and their events have been a permanent fixture now since 1991. Playbill Venues is currently completing a substantial renovation of the Hordern event infrastructure and ensuring the continuation of a world class venue for Sydney.

Playbill Venues is supportive of the redevelopment plans for the Entertainment Quarter. Combining Carsingha's vision for the Entertainment Quarter, with Venues NSW's recent investment into the Sydney Football Stadium and Playbill's investment into the Hordern, Sydney has the opportunity to create the country's premier sporting, entertainment and media precinct at Moore Park.

Playbill's understanding is that the redevelopment will include a range of small capacity music and performance venues (under 2,000 patrons), complementary to the Hordern's larger 5,500 capacity that can house live music, comedy and performance theatre. Building a critical mass of complementary venues would help create a larger entertainment ecosystem, create jobs and in particular support the creative music industry at a time it needs the strongest help post COVID.

The addition of a hotel with suitable noise management design considerations to prevent future disturbance complaints, improved parking and greater food offerings including a day and night hawker style market would also improve any music or sport visitor experience to the precinct.



Playbill Venues is therefore pleased to provide in principle support for Carsingha and looks forward to working with it to develop an exciting future for both the precinct and Sydney.

Yours sincerely,

Kind Regards,

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