Tuesday, 13 September 2016

CALLINAN REPORT RELEASED

The NSW Government has immediately released Hon Ian Callinan AC QC’s independent statutory review of the state’s liquor laws to the public after receiving it late this afternoon.

The review is the result of seven months’ worth of consultation with the public and a wide group of stakeholders including industry, community advocacy groups, transport operators, health professionals and law enforcement agencies.

Everyone was invited to have a say and Mr Callinan received more than 1,800 submissions. Almost 30 stakeholder sessions were also held, including three roundtables into Sydney’s night-time economy.

Mr Callinan’s report states the lockout laws have made Kings Cross and the Sydney CBD safer and that they are valid. However, he also states the government could consider making the following changes:

- Relax the 1.30am lockout and 3am last drinks measures for live entertainment venues to a 2am lockout and 3.30am last drinks for a two-year trial period.
- Extend the state-wide sale of takeaway alcohol from 10pm to 11pm.
- Extend the home delivery of alcohol from 10pm to midnight.

The report, including its conclusions, is available online at www.liquorlawreview.justice.nsw.gov.au.

Deputy Premier Troy Grant said the government will now consider the report and deliver its response before the end of the year.

“There is significant community and stakeholder interest in the report and we are releasing it immediately to give everyone a chance to consider its findings and recommendations,” Mr Grant said.

Mr Grant thanked Mr Callinan for his diligent service in conducting the review.

Stakeholder briefings and community drop-in information sessions will be held over the next few weeks to inform the public on the report’s findings.