



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 9 June, 2011

ACTION ON BIKIE GANG COLOURS IN KINGS CROSS

Following the Premier's direction to ban bikie colours from licensed venues in Kings Cross, The Minister for Hospitality, George Souris, has instructed his Department to take immediate action to deal with the issue.

"I am concerned that policy initiatives from the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing (OLGR) and NSW Police need to ensure better outcomes for the community.

"The NSW Police will now lodge a fresh application with updated evidence to make the banning of bikie gang colours mandatory in a number of licensed venues in Kings Cross.

"The Director-General, NSW Trade and Investment, will expedite his decision on this matter.

"In addition, I am also announcing that a from next Tuesday (14 June), Superintendent Patrick Paroz, Commander of Drug and Alcohol Enforcement, will be seconded to OLGR as Acting Director, Compliance, for a period of three months.

"This will ensure a much closer working relationship between OLGR and NSW Police and embed and formalise arrangements for collaboration between the two agencies over important liquor licensing policy and compliance.

"This development follows consultations today between Barry Buffier, Deputy Director-General of NSW Trade and Investment and the Deputy Police Commissioner Dave Owens, with the imprimatur of the Premier and me.

"As the Premier has already indicated, the Coalition Government is determined to ensure the safety of visitors to Kings Cross and that the powers provided under the liquor and gaming legislation are applied appropriately and decisions are based on evidence," Mr Souris said.