



Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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RESTRICTIONS ON KINGS CROSS LICENSED VENUES

Premier Barry O'Farrell today announced tough new conditions on Kings Cross pubs, bars, nightclubs and restaurants following an audit by the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing.

Mr O'Farrell said the audit of all late trading venues in the Cross last month made a compelling case for dramatic change.

"During the audit, the incident registers of the late trading venues – registers they are required by law to keep – were carefully examined," Mr O'Farrell said.

"That examination revealed a large disparity between the number of people being refused service because they were drunk; and the number of people turfed out for being drunk.

"Many more people were turfed out than were refused service – a scenario which has raised serious concerns about the application of responsible service of alcohol laws in the Cross.

"The unfortunate conclusion is that in the Cross, you will continue to be sold alcohol until you are so drunk you are thrown out – and the problem is transferred to the streets.

"This is not what the community wants in what should be a vibrant and safe nightspot."

Mr O'Farrell said tragic death of teen Thomas Kelly had, quite rightly, focussed attention on Kings Cross.

"A man is facing court over the death of young Tom Kelly, and the justice system will deal with this terrible case," Mr O'Farrell said.

"In the meantime, the Government makes no apologies for dealing with the situation in Kings Cross. Further changes can be expected as the Kings Cross Plan of Management is finalised.

"The licensees in the Cross can now make a submission on the new conditions, but they should be under no illusion about our determination to reduce alcohol-related violence."

Hospitality Minister George Souris said the Director General of NSW Trade & Investment, whose department oversees the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing, today notified the 58 licensed venues in the Kings Cross Precinct Liquor Accord of the planned restrictions.

“The NSW Government is determined to act swiftly to improve safety in and around licensed venues in the Kings Cross precinct,” Mr Souris said.

“These proposed measures impose strict restrictions on these high-risk licensed venues to bolster alcohol and patron management and help ensure the safety of both individuals and the community.”

The changes in the licence conditions in the Cross will mean that on Friday and Saturday nights:

- shots, doubles, and ready-to-drink beverages (over five per cent alcohol) will be not be sold after midnight;
- no-one will be able to buy more than four alcoholic drinks at a time after midnight;
- from 11pm, two Responsible Service of Alcohol marshals must be on duty in each venue; and
- no alcohol will be sold or supplied in the hour before closing.

On every night of the week, the changes will mean:

- glasses, glass bottles and glass jugs will be banned after midnight;
- venue managers will immediately notify police of any violence causing injury, and preserve the crime scene;
- all licensed venues trading past midnight must maintain a digital CCTV system covering entries and exits, the footpath immediately adjacent to the venue, and all publicly accessible areas within the venue (excluding toilets). It must operate continuously from opening time until one hour after closing and footage must be provided to authorities within one working day of a request; and
- incident registers must be maintained at all times, rather than just just after midnight, as is the case now.

The 58 licensed venues to be covered by the proposed new conditions are: Aperitif Restaurant, Bada Bing Night Spot, Barons Restaurant, Barrio Chino, Bayswater Brasserie Events Pty Limited, Bayswater Brasserie Restaurant, Beachhaus, Bootleg Bar & Italian Food, Caffe Roma Restaurant, Candy's Nightclub, Cazalys Sydney, Charcoal Plaza BBQ Buffet Restaurant, Club 21, Dancers Cabaret, Deans Cafe Restaurant, Disco Nightclub Pty Ltd, Dreamgirls, First Empire Hotel, Fountain Cafe Restaurant, Hampton Court Hotel, Holiday Inn Potts Point, Hugo's Bar Pizza, Hugo's Lounge, Iguana Bar & Restaurant, Jimmy Lik's, Ju Ju Japanese Restaurant, Kings Cafe Restaurant, Kings Cross Eye Bar, le panic, Mansions Hotel, Miss G's, Moulin Rouge, New Paradise Restaurant, Piccadilly Hotel, Sapphire Lounge, Showgirls, Sugarmill Hotel, Suite 17, Tharen Restaurant & Bar, The Backroom, The Bank Hotel Sydney, The Bourbon, The Crest Hotel, The Elk Kings Cross, The Kings Cross Hotel, The Lincoln Bar, The Palladium Restaurant, The Rouge Downunder, The Village Potts Point Pty Ltd, The World Bar, Tomatillo Mexican Grill, Tonic Lounge, Trademark Hotel, Tunnel Nightclub, Vegas Hotel, Villa, Watermoon Japanese Restaurant, and Zanzibar Café. ***Note: 18 of the 58 venues are not currently trading. The new restrictions will apply to these venues if and when they resume trading.**

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