



MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW KINGS CROSS REGULATIONS GO INTO EFFECT

Licensed venues in the Kings Cross precinct will have to comply with tough new restrictions from today as part of the NSW Government's efforts to reduce alcohol-related violence and anti-social behaviour, Minister for Hospitality, George Souris, said.

Mr Souris said the *Liquor Amendment (Kings Cross) Regulation 2012* is part of a range of initiatives by the Liberals and Nationals Government to clean up Kings Cross.

“Strict conditions will apply to 131 pubs, clubs, bars and licensed restaurants in the new, expanded Kings Cross precinct from next month, including tough restrictions on the highest risk late trading venues,” Mr Souris said.

Mr Souris said the following special conditions will apply depending on venue type:

- All Kings Cross licensees, bar staff and security personnel will have to transition to Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) photo competency cards by 1 March 2013, to ensure they have up-to-date knowledge of RSA requirements
- Alcohol sales to cease one hour before closing for venues that trade after 2 a.m. on weekends
- ‘Time-outs’ for 24-hour premises on weekends with no alcohol sold between 4am and 5am
- Ban on glass after midnight on all nights
- Drink restrictions after midnight on weekends including no shots, doubles, or ready to drink (RTD) beverages above 5% alcohol, and no more than four alcoholic drinks per person per order
- Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) marshals after midnight on weekends
- CCTV systems to be maintained on premises under strict conditions
- “Round the clock” incident registers to be kept by all venues to record any violent incidents
- Requirement for crime scene preservation following violent incidents
- Prevention of entry to outlaw motorcycle gang members
- Removal of street litter from outside of premises
- Promotion of late night transport options by venues
- Promotion of patron and customer responsibility measures
- Provision of alcohol sales data to authorities if requested.

“The start date for these special conditions is today except for the CCTV and RSA marshal requirements which will commence on December 17, 2012,” Mr Souris said.

“The Government has designed these regulations to be tough, but fair and that’s why operating conditions will apply, depending on the type of licensed venue.

“As part of this common-sense approach, conditions relating to RSA marshals and CCTV systems will not apply to small venues with up to 60 patrons and restaurants which aren’t allowed to serve alcohol without a meal. Small venues will not have to comply with drink restrictions, while licensed restaurants without authorisation to serve alcohol without a meal will not have to introduce bans on glass.

“Licensed premises will be able to apply for limited exemptions if they can show they have alternative safety measures that will be effective in reducing alcohol-related violence, anti-social behaviour or harm in the Kings Cross precinct. These applications will be assessed by the Director General of NSW Trade & Investment on a case-by-case basis.

“This sensible and balanced approach recognises that some Kings Cross venues such as a typical licensed restaurant pose much less risk than large hotels and nightclubs.”

Mr Souris said the regulations support the *Liquor Amendment (Kings Cross Plan of Management) Act 2012* which was passed by the NSW Parliament on 14 November 2012 to:

- Expand the existing boundary of the Kings Cross precinct
- Allow special licence conditions to be imposed on premises in the Kings Cross precinct by the Regulation
- Extend the Kings Cross freeze on new liquor applications until 24 December 2015
- Exclude small venues (not more than 60 patrons) in the Kings Cross precinct from the freeze
- Require all licensees, bar staff and security personnel in the Kings Cross precinct to hold a responsible service of alcohol photo competency card by 1 March 2013.

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