

# Music Festival Roundtable

## 29 May 2020



## Outcomes and Next Steps

The Music Festival Roundtable provides government agencies, lawmakers, regulators and industry stakeholders the opportunity to strengthen relationships, share information, address members' priorities and tackle emerging issues impacting music festivals in NSW.

It is established by the Minister for Customer Service under the *Music Festivals Act 2019*, with its functions specified in the Act and which include supporting the growth of the music festival industry in NSW and the safety of patrons. Membership of the Roundtable is outlined in the Act and comprises equal distribution of government and industry representatives.

Joint statements about key meeting topics and outcomes are published below:

### Music Festival Roundtable - 29 May 2020

- The Music Festival Roundtable was postponed from March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Roundtable noted the profound effect that the pandemic has had on the music festivals sector to date and for the foreseeable future.
- The Roundtable noted the Terms of Reference had been endorsed out of session. It was also noted that the plan for the review of the *Music Festivals Act 2019* had been endorsed by the Co-Chairs out of session, following feedback from Roundtable members.
- The Roundtable noted that the NSW Government response to the Coroner's findings of the coronial inquest into the death of six patrons of NSW music festivals was released just after the December Roundtable where the Roundtable had resolved to discuss the coronial inquest recommendations at the next meeting. It was agreed to consider the findings and government response at a future Roundtable meeting.
- The Roundtable discussed the information sources utilised for the identification of music festivals under the *Music Festivals Act 2019*, including the efficacy and use of media reports. It was agreed that the *Music Festivals Act* review would address some of these issues and to consider available information sources further at a future Roundtable meeting.
- The Roundtable discussion focused on how best to support the future of music festivals following the significant impacts of the bushfires and COVID-19. The Roundtable network will be utilised to assist the industry in developing a plan to ensure the safety of patrons and support the music festival sector's recovery.
- The Roundtable noted the discussion at the December 2019 Roundtable where industry members raised concerns about the clarity of regulatory processes. The Roundtable agreed to conduct a mapping exercise of all regulatory touchpoints and intersections for music festivals to consider how processes could be streamlined.
- Mary Harrod from DanceWize NSW was presented to the Roundtable on the work of the NSW Users and AIDS Association (NUAA) and DanceWize NSW, harm reduction organisations that identify strategies to reduce the harms of illicit drug use at festivals.

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- Confirmation of future meeting dates (which had been postponed due to COVID-19).
- Roundtable members to collaborate with industry in the development of an Industry Plan for the future viability of music festivals.
- A mapping exercise will be conducted out of session to review regulatory touchpoints and intersections.

### Attendee List

Roundtable attendees	Organisation
John Tansey	Department of Customer Service (Co-Chair)
Julia Robinson	Australian Festival Association (Co-Chair)
Dr Catherine Francis	Ministry of Health
Daniel Madeddu	Ministry of Health
David Dutton	NSW Ambulance
Craig Moran	Transport for NSW
Natasha Luschwitz	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Augusta Supple	Create NSW
Luke Walton	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Phil Ventham	Destination NSW
Adelle Robinson	Australian Festival Association Director & Fuzzy Operations
Jessica Ducrou	Australian Festival Association Director & Secret Sounds
Tara Benney	Australian Festival Association Member & Strawberry Fields
Elizabeth Robertson	Local Government NSW
Emily Collins	Music NSW
Evelyn Richardson	Live Performance Australia
Vanessa Seagrove	Unions NSW
Nicholas Pickard	APRA AMCOS
Rohini Sivakumar	Australian Recording Industry Association
Assistant Commissioner Peter Thurtell	NSW Police
Ben Millington	NSW Rural Fire Service (standing invitation)
Invitees/observers	Organisation
Mary Harrod	DanceWize NSW
Marcel Savary	Department of Customer Service
Peter Cox	Department of Customer Service
Superintendent Michael Rochester	NSW Police
Steve Elliott	Transport for NSW
Julia Messner	Ministry of Health