

Music Festival Roundtable

21 June 2023



Outcomes

The Music Festival Roundtable (the Roundtable) provides government agencies and industry stakeholders the opportunity to collaborate, share information, address members' priorities, and discuss emerging issues impacting music festivals in NSW.

The Roundtable was formed under the *Music Festivals Act 2019* (the Act). The functions are specified in the Act. These include supporting the growth of the music festival industry in NSW and the safety of patrons. Membership for the Roundtable is outlined in the Act and comprises an equal distribution of government and industry representatives. Joint statements about key meeting topics and outcomes are published below.

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- The thirteenth Roundtable was held on 21 June 2023 in Sydney.
- The Government co-chair was Tarek Barakat (Proxy for Anthony Keon), Executive Director Policy and Programs, Hospitality and Racing, Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade (DEIT). Julia Robinson, Head of Policy and Advocacy, Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) was the industry co-chair. Tarek Barakat chaired the meeting.
- NSW Health reported that since the last Roundtable meeting in March, it had provided 11 submissions for music festival subject status reassessment.
- NSW Health announced that an Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the peer harm reduction network would be available within the following week.
- The Hon John Graham MLC addressed the Roundtable. Minister Graham acknowledged the work to date that had been done by members. Minister Graham further spoke about future industry support and assistance.
- The *Music Festival Act* review was discussed by Minister Graham and Roundtable members.
- Industry acknowledged it had been working well with L&GNSW and the Hospitality Concierge and recognised that there had been significant improvements regarding Government engagement.
- Industry spoke to the issue of increased festival costs in NSW compared to other States such as Queensland and Victoria. Industry advised that costs can be significantly higher in NSW compared to other states.
- Guest speaker Michael Rodrigues advised that the 24-hour economy team, in conjunction with The Cabinet Office, has been tasked with driving regulatory reform to promote vibrancy in Sydney's night-time economy. Michael Rodrigues extended

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an invitation to all Roundtable members to contact the 24-hour team if they would like to learn more or engage with them.

- Industry acknowledged and welcomed the creation of Sound NSW.
- It was agreed that all subject festivals which had submitted a request for their subject festival status to be reassessed would have an opportunity to speak directly with ILGA about their application. Industry welcomed this change and is eager to continue to work collaboratively with government.
- Subcommittee met on 11 May 2023. The discussion focused on the subject music festival reassessment process.
- One (1) case study was presented, Groovin the Moo, and learnings were shared.
- Roundtable members discussed membership and co-chair appointments. The Roundtable agreed that the Office of the 24-Hour economy commissioner would be best suited to fill the vacant Government member appointment. Industry proposed and Roundtable members agreed that Mitch Wilson take on the role of Industry co-chair.

Next meeting

- The next Roundtable meeting will be held on 9 August 2023.

Attendee List

Roundtable Members	Organisation
Tarek Barakat	Liquor and Gaming NSW
Daniel Madeddu	Ministry of Health
Jessica Boudville	Destination NSW
Claire Bunyon	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Ruth Murphy	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
David Gordon	Create NSW

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Julia Robinson	Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA)
Penelope Pedersen	Local Government NSW
Laura Murdoch	Music NSW
Jessica Ducrou	Australian Festival Association
Mitchell Wilson	Australian Festival Association
Adelle Robinson	Australian Festival Association
Matt Francis	Live Performance Australia
Special Guest	Organisation
The Hon John Graham MLC	Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, Minister for Jobs and Tourism
Meeting Guests and Observers	Organisation
Gabbie Gallagher	Liquor and Gaming NSW
Daniel Rose	Liquor and Gaming NSW
Jye Cuskelly	Liquor and Gaming NSW
Angela Matheson	Health NSW
Michael Rodrigues	NSW 24 Hour Economy
James Hulme	NSW 24 Hour Economy
Alexander Lay	Industry – Festival Operator
Sean Sim	Liquor and Gaming NSW (Secretariat)
Phillip Pandelis	Liquor and Gaming NSW (Secretariat)
Samantha Slykhuis	Liquor and Gaming NSW (Secretariat)