

Tuesday 2 February 2016

LONG TERM CLOSURE ORDERS ON KINGS CROSS VENUES DREAMGIRLS AND BADA BING

Long term closure orders have been imposed on Kings Cross licensed venues Dreamgirls and Bada Bing following applications by the Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing (OLGR) and NSW Police Force on 22 December 2015 alleging illegal drug use at the venues and other licence breaches.

The Authority is satisfied serious breaches of the Liquor Act have occurred or are likely to occur and that the long term closure of the premises is necessary to prevent or reduce the risk of a serious threat to the public interest arising from the use, possession and supply of prohibited drugs on the premises.

OLGR's application against Dreamgirls alleged that in December 2015 undercover officers were able to purchase cocaine at the venue from venue staff, venue strippers were observed openly snorting cocaine, and that a Level 1 area of the club was being operated as an unlicensed bar where alcohol was sold illegally and drug use and smoking was allowed.

On 19 December 2015, Police executed search warrants and found 17 plastic bags containing suspected drugs at Dreamgirls, including in the unlicensed upstairs area of the venue in which OLGR inspectors found an illegal bar operating.

The Authority has ordered Dreamgirls be closed for six months from 8pm on 1 February 2016 or until persons acceptable to the Authority are confirmed as the licensee and/or approved manager; a suitable venue drug control policy has been provided; and that building works and CCTV coverage designed to restrict and monitor access to Level 1 of the building is completed.

The NSW Police Force application against Bada Bing alleged undercover officers were able to purchase cocaine at the venue on multiple occasions in September, October and December 2015 including on one occasion from a responsible service of alcohol (RSA) marshal.

The Authority is satisfied that serious breaches of the Act have occurred, including prohibited drug supply, breaches of CCTV requirements and licence conditions designed to prevent strippers from being physically assaulted by patrons, and that members of outlaw motorcycle gangs have been given access to the premises in breach of Kings Cross requirements.

The Authority has ordered Bada Bing be closed for six months from 8pm on 31 January 2016 or until persons acceptable to the Authority are confirmed as the licensee and/or approved manager and high risk approved manager of the Premises.

The Authority has also proposed imposing further long term conditions on Bada Bing's licence including:

- A requirement for a venue drug policy to be developed in consultation with NSW Police.
- No staff with liquor or prohibited drug convictions to be employed at the venue.



- Patrons are not allowed to access Level 2 of the building or an internal stairway connecting Levels 1 and 2 except as an emergency exit.
- CCTV cameras are to provide constant surveillance of the entry to the stairwells at Levels 1 and 2 of the building.

Copies of the long term closure order decisions will be available at
www.liquorandgaming.justice.nsw.gov.au