

Newcastle Conditions



Background

In March 2008, the then Liquor Administration Board (LAB) imposed special licence conditions on 14 venues in Newcastle's CBD.

This followed the convening of conferences held under the *Liquor Act 1982* in response to disturbance complaints.

Concerns related to violence and anti-social behaviour, particularly during late night trading periods.

There were problems caused by patrons moving between venues and congregating in streets.

The complaints focused on four venues with a further 11 under examination.

The LAB found that for the conditions to be effective at the four venues, they would need to be applied more broadly to other late trading venues. The LAB excluded one venue and determined that 14 venues would be subject to conditions.

Venues covered by the conditions

- ▲ Cambridge Hotel
- ▲ Civic Hotel
- ▲ Clarendon Hotel
- ▲ Crown & Anchor Hotel
- ▲ Customs House Hotel
- ▲ Ducks Nuts Hotel
- ▲ Fanny's of Newcastle
- ▲ Finnegans Hotel
- ▲ Grand Hotel
- ▲ Great Northern Hotel
- ▲ Hotel CBD
- ▲ King Street Hotel
- ▲ Lucky Country Hotel
- ▲ Queens Wharf Brewery

The LAB indicated it would keep under review the operation of the venues to determine whether more substantial restrictions on trading were needed or whether restrictions might be relaxed.

Conditions imposed on venues

The main conditions were lockouts and closure times.

Venues were subjected to lockout times of 1am or 1:30am and closing times of 3am or 3:30am.

In addition, the LAB imposed the following conditions on the 14 venues:

1. That licensees provide to the LAB a Plan of Management within six weeks.
2. Licensees must ensure that at least every three months a compliance audit of the premises is carried out by a person who is not employed or in an ongoing financial arrangement with the hotel so as to ensure continuous compliance with the Plan of Management.
3. From 11pm until closure, licensees must retain an employee whose sole function shall be that of a supervisor of responsible service of alcohol practices at the bar and to observe the responsible consumption of alcohol throughout the premises.
4. The following restrictions and conditions were applied upon the sale of alcohol after 10pm:
 - a. No shots
 - b. No mixed drinks with more than 30mls of alcohol
 - c. No RTD drinks with an alcohol by volume greater than 5%
 - d. Not more than four drinks may be served to any patron at the one time.
5. Free water stations be placed on every bar.
6. Sale and supply of alcohol must cease 30 minutes prior to closing time.

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7. Licensees must ensure, by adequate supervision methods throughout the premises, that no patron is stockpiling drinks. Stockpiling refers to any one patron having more than two unconsumed drinks at a time (a patron may buy up to four drinks at a time).
8. Within three months the licensee must have entered into an agreement with each of the other licensees subject to these conditions an arrangement for the sharing of a radio network to be used by management and security for communicating with the other premises.

These conditions have remained materially the same since 2008.

For further information

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