



**Paul Toole**

Minister for Lands and Forestry  
Minister for Racing

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **REPORT CONFIRMS REDUCTION IN VIOLENCE**

A study by the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research has confirmed a fall in violence in Kings Cross and the Sydney CBD, Minister for Racing Paul Toole said.

“The community was rightly sickened by the senseless injury and death. There was an intense demand for the Government to do something to put a stop to these tragedies,” Mr Toole said.

The lockout and last drinks laws were introduced in 2014 to target concentrated alcohol-related violence in Kings Cross and the CBD.

The reduction in violence in Kings Cross and the CBD far outweighs the displacement of alcohol-related violence, with a net decrease of more than 600 incidents.

Since the lockout laws were introduced, Liquor & Gaming NSW compliance activity has included a significant focus on areas surrounding the Kings Cross and CBD precincts, as well as areas such as Double Bay, Bondi and Newtown.

The Government will continue to address alcohol-related violence wherever it occurs and work to improving public safety in and around all licensed venues and night-time entertainment precincts.

“However, the Government has no plans to expand the scope of the existing lockout area. We will continue to monitor the impact of these laws,” Mr Toole said.

“I am fully supportive of a vibrant and safe nightlife. As Australia’s international city, Sydney deserves nothing less. At all times, the Government will be guided by the evidence as we fine-tune liquor regulations.”

In December, following the Callinan review, lockout and last drinks times for live entertainment venues in Kings Cross and the CBD were relaxed.

Five venues have now been granted extensions to lockout and last drinks times, with Liquor & Gaming NSW considering applications from a further 19 venues.

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