



Paul Toole

Minister for Lands and Forestry
Minister for Racing

MEDIA RELEASE

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SUPPORTING A SAFE AND VIBRANT NIGHTLIFE

New laws that support the development of a safe and vibrant nightlife have passed the NSW Parliament, Minister for Racing Paul Toole said today.

Reforms to liquor laws will also give venues in the Sydney CBD and Kings Cross the ability to refurbish and refresh.

The reforms follow the targeted and sensible relaxation of trading hours for eligible live entertainment venues in the Sydney CBD and Kings Cross.

They also follow the introduction of later trading for takeaway alcohol outlets.

“We are committed to ensuring the community can enjoy safe nights out while also encouraging more diverse and vibrant entertainment options,” Mr Toole said.

The ‘three strikes’ scheme had been successful in deterring poor practices at some venues, but it had also produced unintended consequences.

“The scheme has unfairly penalised new owners and operators who have been unable to remove strikes incurred by previous management,” Mr Toole said.

“By attaching the strike to the licensee rather than the venue, responsible operators won’t be penalised for the poor practices of previous management.”

The legislation has also modified the liquor licence freeze in the Sydney CBD and Kings Cross, which has also had unintended consequences.

“The new arrangements mean businesses will have more flexibility to refurbish their premises, change their offerings and attract new customers,” Mr Toole said.

“We want a safe and vibrant nightlife, so we are working with industry to produce the best outcome for the community.”

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