

Outcomes Report

Sydney Night-Time Economy Roundtable

August 2016



Table of Contents

1	Sydney Night-Time Economy Roundtable	3
1.1	Roundtable process	3
1.2	Participation	4
1.3	Recommendations for Sydney’s Night-Time Economy	5
	Appendices	6
	Action Plan for the Sydney Night-Time Economy	A
	Youth Consultation Forum Report	B

1 Sydney Night-Time Economy Roundtable

This report has been prepared as a record of the outcomes of the Sydney Night-Time Economy Roundtable process that took place between March and May 2016.

The Roundtable was announced on 9 March 2016 by the Hon. Troy Grant MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts and Minister for Racing, and established by the NSW Government through Liquor & Gaming NSW within the Department of Justice¹.

The outcomes of the Roundtable are presented in this document for consideration as part of the independent Liquor Law Review being undertaken by the Hon. Ian Callinan AC QC. This report will also be presented to Government for its consideration. Furthermore, the Roundtable outcomes will be published on the Liquor & Gaming NSW website at www.liquorandgaming.justice.nsw.gov.au.

1.1 Roundtable process

Purpose and scope

The Roundtable was established by the NSW Government to examine the challenges and opportunities for growing a safe and vibrant night-time economy in Sydney – specifically within the Sydney city centre and Kings Cross precincts.

As part of the first roundtable meeting, the night-time economy was defined as encompassing after-dark activities in the city centre and Kings Cross incorporating leisure, study and work, and involving both residents and visitors. It was agreed that any key implications of the night-time economy for the day-time economy should also be considered, where relevant. Further to this, it was agreed that the night-time economy should be inclusive of social, economic and cultural activities, and related transport and access.

During the course of the Roundtable, a number of participants noted that further consideration should be given to the night-time economy of the wider Sydney metropolitan area, while recognising that this was beyond the scope of the Roundtable process.

In this context, the night-time economy may be defined as:

“A wide range of services that meet the leisure, study and work interests and the wellbeing of visitors and residents seeking to use its various attractions. This involves social, economic and cultural activities that take place from 6pm including retail, theatre, film, art, education, employment, restaurants, hotels, clubs, cafes, small bars, markets, sport, live music, concerts, festivals and other events. It also involves day-to-day activities for residents; and getting to, from and around the precincts.”

It was explained that the Roundtable meetings were *not* a forum to determine the merits of the Government’s current liquor policy settings that are being examined as part of the Callinan Review. The Roundtable sought to provide community, industry and government participants with a unique opportunity to contribute to a holistic discussion and help shape thinking on how best to improve the safety and vibrancy of Sydney’s night-time economy.

One of the desired outcomes for the Roundtable meetings was to identify new and innovative strategies and actions to support the night-time economy in Sydney. Discussion of successful strategies adopted by night-time economies in other cities was encouraged. Three members of the Roundtable visited the

¹ See <http://www.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/media-news/media-releases/2016/mr-liquorlawreview.aspx>

first international Night Mayor Summit, held in Amsterdam on 22 and 23 April 2016², and reported back key learnings from this event to the Roundtable number two meeting on 28 April 2016.

The third roundtable developed a series of action outcomes for consideration by the Government and the Callinan review. The action plan is provided in Appendix A.

Format and timeframe

The Roundtable consisted of three meetings:

- Roundtable meeting one: Thursday 31 March 2016 – to identify the factors impacting on Sydney’s night-time economy and establish the scope of the challenges to be resolved.
- Roundtable meeting two: Thursday 28 April May 2016 – to develop workable solutions for Sydney’s night-time economy.
- Roundtable meeting three: Thursday 19 May 2016 – to consider the agreed outcomes of the processes and actions to be taken, and establish responsibility and ownership.

The Roundtable meetings were chaired by Samantha Torres, Deputy Secretary, Justice Services, Arts and Culture, Department of Justice. The purpose and format for each meeting was developed by the Department of Justice team, with all meetings held at the Portside Conference Centre, 207 Kent Street, Sydney.

The meetings were independently facilitated and reported by Elton Consulting.

1.2 Participation

Roundtable participants

The Roundtable involved a mix of stakeholders representing key business sectors, local residents and government agencies with expertise and experience in fostering a safe and vibrant night-time economy. The meetings provided for cross-sectoral participation by approximately 30 invited representatives from hospitality, live music, health, police, transport, local government, small business and planning sectors, and resident groups, as shown below.

Australasian College of Surgeons	MusicNSW
Australian Hotels Association NSW	NSW Health
City of Sydney	NSW Police Force (Kings Cross LAC)
City Resident Action Group	NSW Police Force (Drug and Alcohol Coordination Unit)
Committee for Sydney	NSW Taxi Council
ClubsNSW	NSW Treasury
Crown Resorts	Office of the Small Business Commissioner
Department of Justice	Police Association of NSW
Department of Planning and Environment	Restaurant and Catering Association
Department of Premier and Cabinet	St Vincent’s Hospital Emergency
DestinationNSW	The Star Entertainment Group

² See <http://nachtburgemeester.amsterdam/night-mayor-summit/>

Greater Sydney Commission	Tourism and Transport Forum
Keep Sydney Open	2011 Residents' Association
Liquor & Gaming NSW	Transport for NSW
Liquor Stores Association	Uber Sydney
Live Music Office	

Youth perspectives

To provide a youth perspective on Sydney's night-time economy, a Youth Consultation Forum was held on 9 May 2016 at the Sydney Opera House. The Youth Forum involved 15 young people aged 18-30 identified with the assistance of Roundtable members from the following organisations, through their respective networks:

- Committee for Sydney
- MusicNSW
- Keep Sydney Open

Feedback from the Youth Forum was documented in a report and provided to Roundtable participants, for consideration and discussion at the third roundtable meeting. A short video containing vox-pops from a number of young people who participated in the Forum was screened at Roundtable number three.

Feedback from the Youth Forum provided a snapshot of the views of those young people who took part in the session. It is important to note that feedback from this session was not intended to be in any way representative of the views of young people more broadly. The report documenting the outcomes of the Youth Consultation Forum is provided in Appendix B.

1.3 Recommendations for Sydney's Night-Time Economy

The **key recommendation of the Roundtable** is to establish a new entity within Government to implement and monitor progress towards an **action plan** for Sydney's night-time economy and to liaise with stakeholders to foster and promote Sydney's night-time economy.

Following Roundtable number three, it was determined that the Executive Director, Arts NSW within the Department of Justice will be responsible for leading a night-time economy taskforce. The taskforce will be responsible for implementation, liaising with key stakeholders and monitoring progress of the measures contained in the action plan.

The action plan developed through the Roundtable process identifies 25 short and longer term actions to support progress, under each of the following themes:

- Governance
- Planning, design and place making
- Access and transport
- Policing, enforcement and regulation
- Cultural and behavioural change
- Diversity, including arts and culture
- Communications.

The action plan is attached in Appendix A.

Appendices

- A) Action Plan for the Sydney Night-Time Economy
- B) Youth Consultation Forum Report