Submission against lockouts



To Whom it may concern,

You undoubtedly have a lot of information to go through, so I will keep this brief and avoid repeating specific detail which will have been provided by many already.

I vehemently oppose; 1.30am lockouts, or lockouts at any time; 3am last drinks, or any cessation of service; and any other measures which affect the viability of late night music venues and restrict personal freedoms.

I request these measures, which were put in place as a knee jerk reaction under extremely dubious circumstances, to be immediately removed and replaced with 24 hour trading for music and entertainment venues. 24 hour licensing should also apply to restaurants etc, however I understand this may be outside the scope of this review.

I also specifically request the 3am amplified music ban applied to the sly fox be immediately lifted. This is an abhorrent and unjustifiable attack on music and the instigators should be ashamed of themselves. hundreds upon hundreds of people enjoy this venue every week and have done so for decades. to apply restrictions based on any less than hundreds of noise complaints is undemocratic. I find it extremely difficult to believe there were significant numbers of complaints as the venue is small and peaceful, with music barely audible from outside.

The claims that lockouts and last drinks are in place for public safety simply do no add up if one looks at the bigger picture. suicide is a much bigger killer than "alcohol fuelled violence", with problem gambling contributing to 1 in 5 suicides, and financial hardship also being a well identified factorg. it is therefore reasonable to propose that job losses and funneling people to gambling venues as a result of the lockouts may have contributed to more deaths than occurred from "alcohol fuelled violence".

I note many comments from friends, particularly females, that they feel less safe late at night because the streets are concerningly empty, with no help available if it were required.

sydney could be the greatest city in the world, however its cultural development is being severely impacted by draconian regulations put in place by people who have a very limited understanding of the culture they are restricting and the impacts of the se restrictions.

We should be taking notice of the practices that are working overseas and implementing them

here, rather than self righteous, out of touch politicians and policy makers making decisions in direct contradiction to best practice.

in summary, no lockouts, no last drinks. 24 hour trading should be implemented and the market allowed to decide venue trading times.

Regards

Alex Burgess