



08 January 2019

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Dear Ms Prentice

Late Night Trading Development Control Plan Review

Sydney Business Chamber (the Chamber) welcomes the opportunity to comment on and support proposed changes to the City of Sydney's Late Night Trading Development Control Plan ("the DCP").

The Chamber, as a division of NSW Business Chamber, represents Sydney's leading organisations across Greater Sydney; advocating for policies that enhance Sydney as a competitive, liveable, and global city.

Sydney City's nightlife is a mass contributor to the state's economy, social fabric, and culture. Generating more than \$3.64 billion in revenue every year and employing more than 32,000 people, Sydney's night-time economy helps shape our City as Australia's most significant tourist destination. It also promotes employment, investment, and helps encourage the public to participate in trade, culture, and the arts beyond standard workhours.

However, there is significant scope for reform. In 2018, Sydney was ranked 15th on the Global Cities Index. This highlights the need to not only maintain our position but to take active steps to ensure that Sydney competes with other global cities. Sitting well above Sydney are cities like New York, London, Paris, and Tokyo. These are cities that focus—not just on extending trading hours—but on competing to become the leading 24-hour economy.

In addition, Sydney, like all global cities, has seen dramatic changes in what's considered a 'typical' work day. Spikes in part-time and casual work, along with increases in shift work, weekend work, and a bigger transient population (made up of both holidaymakers and fly-in fly-out professionals), demands that Sydney develop a retail, social, and cultural sector that supports and reflects these changes.

In 2017 alone, Sydney City saw 464 new student accommodation rooms in what's already a heavily student dominated area. Signalling the deep need for a lively and inclusive after dark scene that's enticing to the younger population who make up the bulk of Australia's third largest export, education.

Similarly there have been dramatic changes in the City's topology and population over the last decade. Sydney fundamentally requires a greater level of late-night trade in order to maintain minimum standards of liveability for residents.



As of June 2017, the estimated residential population of Sydney City was 232,926; which, during 2006 – 2016, grew by 36%. This has been met through growth in residential dwelling development which hit 124,923 as of June 2018, with an additional 138,000 dwellings to be created by 2030.

It should also be remembered that while the night time economy helps to support residential communities, it also encourages local tourism providing flow on benefits to the wider economy. The most attractive tourist destinations are those that offer an array of entertainment options for different ages, cultures and lifestyles, including families. This requires private as well as public attractions, and night-time leisure activities not associated to the consumption of alcohol.

It is in that context that the Chamber supports the proposals under the revised Development Control Plan to:

1. **Create** A 24-hour city centre by extending the late night management area along George Street across the city centre
2. **Allow** low impact venues in local centres to trade until 2am (with the specification that such venues have an entry on a main street and not in a residential laneway or area).
3. **Identify** late-night trading areas in suitable urban renewal precincts such as Barangaroo, Walsh Bay, Green Square town centre, Danks Street and an arts focused industrial heritage warehouse area in Alexandria.
4. **Extend** existing areas – recognise venues in Chippendale, Redfern, Surry Hills and Lankelly Place in Potts Point, which have emerged since the planning controls were reviewed in 2007.
5. **Encourage** performance, culture and unlicensed businesses

As Council would be aware, Sydney's lockout laws, together with significant levels of infrastructure development in the CBD have impacted on late night foot traffic to both licensed and unlicensed venues across the City of Sydney. According to a 2018 survey by The Darlinghurst Business Partnership, 88% of businesses within the Darlinghurst area alone have seen a reduction in turnover since the lockout laws were put in place. The Chamber believes that the security of residents by prolonging

The Chamber believes that changes to Council's DCP to expand night time activity in the CBD is a positive step forward to growing our City while managing impacts appropriately. We particularly welcome changes to the DCP which will expand the City's traditional 'night-time spots' to locations like Green Square.

The Chamber thanks you once again for the opportunity to comment on this proposal. If you wish to discuss further any aspect of this submission please feel free to contact Mr Luke Aitken, Senior Manager, Policy, NSW Business Chamber on (02) 9458 7582 or via email Luke.Aitken@nswbc.com.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Patricia Forsythe'.

The Hon. Patricia Forsythe AM
Executive Director