

12 November 2018

At the conclusion of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and
Tenders Committee



Cultural and Community Committee

Agenda

1. **Disclosures of Interest**

Healthy Communities Sub-Committee

2. **Outdoor Alcohol Restrictions Consultation 2018**
3. **Knowledge Exchange Sponsorship - The Equality Project Australia**

Guidelines for Speakers at Council Committees



As part of our democratic process, the City invites members of the community to speak directly to Councillors during Committee meetings about items on the agenda.

To enable the Committee to hear a wide range of views and concerns within the limited time available, we encourage people interested in speaking at Committee to:

1. Register to speak by calling Council's Secretariat on 9265 9310 before 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting.
2. Check the recommendation in the Committee report before speaking, as it may address your concerns so that you just need to indicate your support for the recommendation.
3. Note that there is a three minute time limit for each speaker (with a warning bell at two minutes) and prepare your presentation to cover your major points within that time
4. Avoid repeating what previous speakers have said and focus on issues and information that the Committee may not already know.
5. If there is a large number of people interested in the same item as you, try to nominate three representatives to speak on your behalf and to indicate how many people they are representing.
6. Before speaking, turn on the microphone by pressing the button next to it and speak clearly so that everyone in the Council Chamber can hear.
7. Be prepared to quickly return to the microphone and respond briefly to any questions from Councillors, after all speakers on an item have made their presentations.

Committee meetings can continue until very late, particularly when there is a long agenda and a large number of speakers. This impacts on speakers who have to wait until very late, as well as Council staff and Councillors who are required to remain focused and alert until very late. At the start of each Committee meeting, the Committee Chair may reorder agenda items so that those items with speakers can be dealt with first.

Committee reports are on line at www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au, with printed copies available at Sydney Town Hall immediately prior to the meeting. Council staff are also available prior to the meeting to assist.

Item 1.

Disclosures of Interest

Pursuant to the provisions of section 451 of the Local Government Act 1993, Councillors are required to disclose pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee.

Councillors are also required to disclose any non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee in accordance with the relevant clauses of the Code of Conduct – February 2016.

In both cases, the nature of the interest must be disclosed.

Written disclosures of interest received by the Chief Executive Officer in relation to items for consideration at this meeting will be laid on the table.

Item 2.

Outdoor Alcohol Restrictions Consultation 2018

File No: X014979

Summary

The City considers applications for new outdoor alcohol restrictions each year.

There are two types of outdoor alcohol restrictions:

- (a) Alcohol free zones apply to public roads and footpaths.
- (b) Alcohol prohibited areas apply to parks and civic spaces.

Outdoor alcohol restrictions are established in public places to restrict the consumption of alcohol to help prevent alcohol-related anti-social behaviour and crime, which includes damage to property, littering and noise impacts.

Outdoor alcohol restrictions provide NSW Police with an early intervention measure to confiscate alcohol within designated areas. In New South Wales, a person cannot be fined for consuming alcohol in a restricted site.

From December 2017 to September 2018 the City received 12 applications from NSW Police and one application from a resident requesting consideration of new outdoor alcohol restriction sites. The applications received requested 12 new alcohol free zones, which are valid 24 hours a day, seven days per week and one temporary alcohol free zone, which is time limited and put in place to reduce alcohol related incidents for special events across set dates, e.g. New Year's Eve.

These sites were nominated due to anti-social behaviour, which includes pre-loading, public urination, littering and irresponsible drinking in streets surrounding late night entertainment premises.

The Ministerial Guidelines for Alcohol Free Zones 2009 guide the public notification required for all new outdoor alcohol restriction sites. In accordance with the Ministerial Guideline, a 30 day notification period took place between 20 August 2018 and 19 September 2018.

The City received four submissions opposing the proposals. Concern was raised regarding infringement on responsible consumption of alcohol in public places and the burden of regulation on the community. Submissions received in objection were generic and did not specifically reference the proposed sites.

In consideration of proposed restrictions, the City considers the application, advice from NSW Police and the benefits of the restriction in reducing alcohol related anti-social behaviour. This includes an analysis of current crime statistics with all 13 proposed sites located close to areas with higher levels of alcohol related violence.

Following analysis of all applications, submissions and current crime statistics, this report recommends 12 sites be established as alcohol free zones until 22 March 2020 and one site be established as a temporary alcohol free zone on New Year's Eve until 2020.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) the following alcohol free zones are approved for establishment 24 hours a day, seven days per week until 22 March 2020:

Kings Cross Police Area Command

- (i) Badham Street

Redfern Police Area Command

- (ii) Balfour Street (between O'Connor Street and Meagher Street)

Surry Hills Police Area Command

- (iii) Clare Street

- (iv) Flinders Street (between Albion Street and Moore Park Road)

- (v) Floods Place

- (vi) Hill Street

- (vii) Linden Lane

- (viii) Maiden Lane

- (ix) Mary's Place

- (x) Short Place

- (xi) Short Street

- (xii) Patterson Lane

- (B) the following temporary alcohol free zone is approved for establishment 24 hours a day from 31 December 2018 to 1 January 2019 and from 31 December 2019 to 1 January 2020:

Sydney City Police Area Command

- (i) Hickson Road

Attachments

- Attachment A.** Public Notice - Proposed Outdoor Alcohol Restrictions 2018
- Attachment B.** Submissions Summary - Proposed Outdoor Alcohol Restrictions 2018
- Attachment C.** Map - Proposed Outdoor Alcohol Restrictions 2018

Background

1. Alcohol free zones and alcohol prohibited areas are established in public places across New South Wales to restrict the consumption of alcohol to help prevent alcohol-related anti-social behaviour and crime.
2. NSW Police support restrictions as a crime prevention tool, advising that they can mitigate other crimes such as malicious damage, stealing, offensive behaviour and acts of violence.
3. These restrictions provide NSW Police with the authority to tip out or confiscate alcohol within designated public areas. There are no fines associated with the offence.
4. From July 2017 to June 2018 there were 1,503 incidents of alcohol non-domestic violence related assaults in the City of Sydney Local Government Area. The current trend across the City is stable over a two year period, 2016 - 2018.
5. Under the Local Government Act 1993, Council can resolve to establish an alcohol free zone, or an alcohol prohibited area. Alcohol free zones and areas can also be established on a temporary basis for special events.
6. The Ministerial Guidelines on Alcohol Free Zones 2009 provide the process that councils must undertake to establish alcohol free zones and alcohol prohibited areas.
7. In 2016, the City conducted an audit of all alcohol free zones and alcohol prohibited areas across the local government area. The City then initiated public consultation to review all zones and areas and align their expiry to a common date, which is currently 22 March 2020.
8. From December 2017 to September 2018 the City received 12 applications from NSW Police and one from a resident for new alcohol free zones. This includes one application for a temporary restriction for New Year's Eve. All applications were placed on public exhibition from 20 August to 19 September 2018.
9. Twelve applications were received from NSW Police, who support outdoor alcohol restrictions as a crime prevention tool, advising they can mitigate other crimes such as offensive behaviour and acts of violence. One application was received from a resident due to alcohol related antisocial behaviour in a nearby street.

10. The applications from NSW Police cited alcohol related anti-social behaviour including public urination, littering and pre-drinking outside licensed venues. Pre-drinking, also known as pre-loading, refers to the consumption of alcohol, often to levels of intoxication, prior to attending a licenced venue.
11. The application from a resident for an alcohol free zone in Badham Street, Woolloomooloo was due to ongoing anti-social behaviour in the street from nearby backpackers who routinely engaged in street drinking. NSW Police have advised they have no objection to this proposal.
12. At the completion of the notification period, the City received four submissions objecting to the proposals. Submissions received in objection outlined infringement on responsible consumption of alcohol in public places and the burden of regulation on the community. Submissions received in objection were generic and did not specifically reference the proposed streets. A summary of the submissions is included in Attachment B.
13. In consideration of proposed restrictions the City considers the application, advice from NSW Police and the benefits of the restriction in reducing alcohol related anti-social behaviour. This includes an analysis of current crime statistics with all 13 proposed sites located close to areas with a higher level of alcohol related violence.
14. Based on the applications, submissions, current crime statistics, and additional analysis, this report recommends all 13 zones for endorsement.
15. If endorsed by Council a notice will be placed on the City's website to notify the community of established alcohol free zones.
16. The alcohol free zones will not operate until seven days after such notice and until roads and footpaths affected are adequately signposted.

Key Implications

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030 Vision

17. Sustainable Sydney 2030 is a vision for the sustainable development of the City to 2030 and beyond. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the City, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This report is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
 - (a) Direction 6 - Resilient and Inclusive Local Communities. The establishment of alcohol restrictions enhances the safety and accessibility of civic spaces for a diverse population of residents, workers and visitors to enjoy.

Risks

18. If Council does not endorse the proposal, alcohol free zones will not be valid in the proposed streets. The actual risk is considered low to moderate, as the NSW Police have other powers to deal with alcohol related anti-social behaviour. However, restrictions will allow the Police to seize alcohol from persons located within the area, which can assist in preventing anti-social behaviour.

Social / Cultural / Community

19. The intention of establishing outdoor alcohol restrictions is to assist in preventing alcohol-related anti-social behaviour and crime. This can lead to an enhancement of amenity for residents, businesses and visitors to Sydney.

Economic

20. Areas covered by footway approvals issued by the City of Sydney to licensed premises are exempt from alcohol free zone restrictions. Footway approved areas are covered by responsible service of alcohol provisions and, therefore, any alcohol-related anti-social behaviour is the responsibility of premises operators. For this reason, footway occupations require clear physical delineation to show where the licensed area ends and the alcohol free zone begins

Budget Implications

21. Funding for relevant signage is included in the 2018/19 City Business and Safety budget.

Relevant Legislation

22. Local Government Act 1993.
23. Liquor Act 2007.
24. Roads Act 1993.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

25. Under the Local Government Act 1993, a council must publicly advise the establishment of an alcohol free zone.
26. An alcohol free zone will not operate until seven days after notice is given of the establishment and until roads and footpaths affected are adequately signposted.

Public Consultation

27. A 30 day notification period took place between 20 August 2018 and 19 September 2018. Consultation included community engagement and targeted consultation with NSW Police, liquor licensees, community interest groups and relevant business units within the City. A copy of the public notice is provided in Attachment A.

ANN HOBAN

Director City Life

Shaun Goggins, Project Manager City Business and Safety

Attachment A

<p>Public Notice - Proposed Outdoor Alcohol Restrictions 2018</p>
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Proposed outdoor alcohol restrictions in the City of Sydney area

We invite your feedback on new requests for outdoor alcohol restrictions. These restrictions aim to prevent anti-social behaviour by prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in certain areas.

Alcohol-free zones apply to streets. Alcohol prohibited areas apply to parks and other public places. People found to be drinking within a designated alcohol-free zone or alcohol prohibited area can have their alcohol confiscated by the police.

Community members and the police have nominated the proposed new sites due to incidences of alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour.

Your feedback will inform a report prepared for Council. If Council approves this proposal, these restrictions will be in place **until 22 March 2020**.

Proposed alcohol-free zones 24 hours a day, 7 days per week until 22 March 2020

Chippendale

- Balfour Street
(between O'Connor Street and Meagher Street)

Darlinghurst

- Hill Street, Mary's Place, Floods Place, Clare Street, Short Place, Short Street, Maiden Lane, Linden Lane, Patterson Lane and

Flinders Street (between Albion Street and Moore Park Road)

Woolloomooloo

- Badham Street

Proposed temporary alcohol-free zones 24 hours a day for New Year's Eve 2018 to 2020 from 31 December to 2 January inclusive

Sydney CBD

- Hickson Road

You can review existing outdoor alcohol restrictions at cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/community/health-and-safety/alcohol-and-drugs/alcohol-safety/alcohol-restrictions

You can give your feedback at sydneyyoursay.com.au or by post to Senior Project Manager, Strategic Engagement and Community Relations, Town Hall House Level 7, 456 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Submissions close at **5pm on Wednesday 19 September 2018**.



For more information about this project, please contact Manager Safe City on **02 9265 9333** or email safecity@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Attachment B

<p>Submissions Summary – Proposed Outdoor Alcohol Restrictions Consultation 2018</p>

Submissions Table

#	Author	Support/Oppose	Issue
1	Resident	Oppose	Does not align with current efforts to reinvigorate the night time economy.
2	Resident	Oppose	Police should react to problem behaviour instead of a blanket ban.
3	Resident	Oppose	Extensive alcohol bans are similar to lockout laws.
4	Resident	Oppose	The City has already created too many restricted sites and they should not be used to manage a small group of people. Especially disagrees with New Year's Eve restrictions.

Attachment C

**Map - Proposed Outdoor Alcohol
Restrictions 2018**



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■ Proposed alcohol free zone ■ Existing restrictions
■ Proposed temporary alcohol free zone  Not managed by City of Sydney

Sydney2030/Green/Global/Connected


 0 0.25 0.5 km
 Date: 03/10/2018
 2018_AFZ_UpdatedProposed.aprx

Item 3.

Knowledge Exchange Sponsorship - The Equality Project Australia

File No: S117676

Summary

An application for sponsorship under the Knowledge Exchange Sponsorship Program has been received from The Equality Project Ltd (The Equality Project Australia).

The Equality Project is seeking \$20,000 towards the costs of organising the Better Together National LGBTIQ+ Conference Sydney in January 2019.

Better Together aims to explore issues facing the LGBTIQ+ community in Australia, bringing together voices from First Nations communities, people with a disability, and multicultural and multi-faith communities. The goal is to create discussion about achieving meaningful social change. The Equality Project also seeks to build community capacity by offering leadership skills training for emerging leaders in the LGBTIQ+ community.

The request for sponsorship has been assessed against the aims of the Knowledge Exchange Sponsorship Program and was found to strongly align with the majority of the sponsorship program's key outcomes, in particular:

- encouraging the exchange of ideas and knowledge
- the development of strong networks through which participants can share resources and acquire new knowledge and skills, and
- improved capacity in organisations and individuals to develop socially just and resilient communities.

The Equality Project has experience in running a similar successful conference in Melbourne in January 2018, which was attended by over 670 people from across Australia as well as a number of delegates from the United States, United Kingdom and the Philippines.

The City's sponsorship would support the provision of scholarship places for delegates experiencing financial hardship, Auslan interpreters and other conference expenses.

Benefits to the City would include co-branding as a major partner on The Equality Project website and in program material, acknowledgement through social media and as well as verbal acknowledgements during the final plenary.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a cash sponsorship of \$20,000 (excluding GST) to The Equality Project Ltd. for the Better Together National LGBTIQ+ Conference 2019
- (B) Authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer a sponsorship agreement with The Equality Project Ltd.

Attachments

Nil

Background

1. The Equality Project is a new national organisation, established in 2017, which brings together LGBTIQ+ people with allies across the social justice movement, to advocate for a better, more just, and fairer society. The Equality Project is a non-profit organisation and charity, incorporated as a company limited by guarantee.
2. Their inaugural conference, Better Together 2018, was held at the Melbourne Town Hall from 13-14 January 2018. It was attended by over 670 people from across Australia as well as a number of delegates from the United States, United Kingdom and the Philippines.
3. The next national conference, Better Together 2019, is due to be held in Sydney from 11-12 January 2019. The conference aims to explore current issues facing the LGBTIQ+ community, including transgender, intersex and bisexual communities, and bring together intersectoral voices from First Nations communities, people with a disability, the Deaf community, as well as multicultural and multi-faith communities.
4. As part of the lead up to the conference, prospective delegates in Sydney were invited to attend a two-day advocacy, leadership and media training event held on 13 and 14 October 2018. Other training sessions were also held in Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Canberra.
5. The conference will offer 20 percent of seats as fully subsidised scholarships for people experiencing financial hardship from multicultural/multi-faith communities, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities, people with a disability, and people from regional and rural areas.
6. Based on attendances at the Melbourne conference, The Equality Project expect representation from approximately 80 percent of Australia's LGBTIQ+ organisations. ACON and Rainbow Families NSW will also provide up to 40 volunteers for the conference as ushers and support people.
7. The Equality Project is seeking \$20,000 in funding from the City of Sydney to assist with the costs of running the conference. The Equality Project has established other partnerships for both the 2019 conference and pre-conference training program with a number of organisations, including Dowson Turco Lawyers, Mercer Australia, Macquarie, GLAAD USA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation), Stonewall UK, PricewaterhouseCoopers(PwC) Australia, Pride in Diversity, National LGBTI Health Alliance, ACON, Rainbow Families and the University of Technology Sydney.
8. City of Sydney funds will be used to provide scholarship places for delegates experiencing financial hardship, Auslan interpreters and other conference expenses.
9. The City would be acknowledged as a major partner on The Equality Project website and in program material, acknowledgement through social media and in verbal acknowledgements during the final plenary session.

Key Implications

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030 Vision

10. Sustainable Sydney 2030 is a vision for the sustainable development of the City to 2030 and beyond. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the City, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This sponsorship is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
 - (a) Direction 6 - Vibrant Local Communities and Economies - the conference aims to strengthen LGBTIQ+ leadership and advocacy, increase intersectoral collaboration and connection and provide leadership, networking and mentoring opportunities for participants.
11. The sponsorship also aligns with the City's Social Sustainability Policy and Action Plan 2018-2028, Strategic Direction 2 - Connected City: diverse, cohesive communities. The conference will provide opportunities to increase social connectedness among diverse communities; enhance a sense of belonging among diverse communities; strengthen social cohesion among culturally diverse communities, and encourage active participation community life.

Organisational Impact

12. The delivery of the sponsorship will require a contract and relationship manager for the duration of the project, which can be managed within existing resources.

Social / Cultural / Community

13. The conference will have a strong focus on collaborative action and connection between individuals, groups, organisations and communities, including LGBTIQ+ people from First Nations communities, people with a disability, the Deaf community, as well as multicultural and multi-faith communities. The conference will contribute to increased social cohesion by building capacity within the LGBTIQ+ communities and organisations to collaborate with other groups of diverse and intersectional backgrounds. As an outcome of this process it is expected that there will be greater understanding and acceptance of difference between the diverse groups represented.

Budget Implications

14. Funding of \$20,000 (excluding GST) can be accommodated within the Knowledge Exchange grants and sponsorship budget for the financial year 2018-19.

Relevant Legislation

15. Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

16. A contract will be developed for this application after Council approval to ensure funding is released in time for the conference, due to be held on 11 and 12 January 2019.

ANN HOBAN

Director City Life

Jackie Campisi, Social Policy Officer