

Item 9**Establishment of Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel****File No: X012275****Summary**

On 23 October 2017, Council resolved to establish a Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel to provide expert advice on the implementation of our nightlife and cultural strategies and policies. The Chief Executive Officer was asked to prepare a Terms of Reference and identify suitable Panel members for consideration and endorsement by Council.

The Terms of Reference as shown in Attachment A were prepared following a review of similar advisory groups set up in other global cities. The models adopted by Amsterdam and Berlin provide a suitable framework for Sydney. These advisory groups are comprised of sector representatives who provide leadership for their sectors and expert advice on implementation of policies, and issues and opportunities that support positive development of the night time economy. The Terms of Reference outline the purpose, scope, membership, selection and appointment process and other administrative matters of the Advisory Panel.

A call for expressions of interest was advertised in local newspapers, on the City of Sydney website, social media channels and through relevant networks. The expression of interest closed on 26 February 2018.

A total of 126 applications were received. Each expression of interest was considered in line with the selection criteria contained in the Terms of Reference. Panel members have been selected on the basis of the skills and experience brought by each person, and with regard to the composition of the Panel as a whole.

This is to ensure that, as far as possible, the overall membership of the Panel reflects the diversity of the nightlife and creative sectors in the City of Sydney, including people who represent various age groups and cultural backgrounds. The recommended members have a high level of expertise in key areas such as event and festival production, small bars, hotels, cafés and restaurants, live music, electronic dance music production, performance spaces, building and regulatory frameworks and public safety.

This report recommends Council endorse 15 nominees be appointed to the City's Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel and that a Councillor be appointed as Co-Chair in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the Terms of Reference for the Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) endorse the following 15 nominees to be appointed by the Chief Executive Officer as members to the Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel for a period of three years:
 - (i) Justine Baker
 - (ii) John Green
 - (iii) Greg Turton
 - (iv) Joshua Green
 - (v) Joy Ng
 - (vi) Kerri Glasscock
 - (vii) Kat Dopper
 - (viii) Emily Collins
 - (ix) John Ferris
 - (x) James Winter
 - (xi) Emilyya Colliver
 - (xii) Stephan Gyory
 - (xiii) Jacob Collier
 - (xiv) Michael Wynn-Jones
 - (xv) Phillip Wadds
- (C) nominate _____ to co-chair the Panel in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

Attachments

Attachment A. Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel Terms of Reference

Attachment B. Recommended Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel Members

Background

1. The City of Sydney has developed a vision for a city with a dynamic, inclusive, diverse and safe cultural life and nightlife. This vision, based on extensive consultation with our communities, welcomes creative energy and bold ideas, encourages participation, and values and celebrates our cultural life.
2. This vision, expressed through the OPEN Sydney Strategy, Creative City Policy and Action Plan, the Live Music and Performance Action Plan and the City's suite of Public Art Policies and Strategies, has attracted strong support.
3. Achieving the goals and objectives of these policies, strategies and plans requires action by the City and the involvement of other agencies. Only through taking this action and this engagement will we fulfil aspirations for the vibrant and creative city expressed by the community during our extensive consultations.
4. On 23 October 2017, Council resolved to establish a City of Sydney Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel to provide expert advice on the implementation of our nightlife and cultural strategies and policies. The Chief Executive Officer was requested to prepare a Terms of Reference and identify suitable Panel members for consideration and endorsement by Council.
5. The Terms of Reference were prepared following a review of similar advisory groups set up in other global cities. These included models such as the Night Mayor in Amsterdam, the Club Commission in Berlin, the Night Time Commission in London and the recently established Office of Nightlife in New York. London and New York are at the early stages of planning, with research and public consultation as the core focus for their advisory groups. Amsterdam and Berlin are focused on proactive development and ongoing management of their nightlife. Sydney sits somewhere between these two stages.
6. The Terms of Reference attached reflect a similar model to those adopted by Amsterdam and Berlin whereby the advisory groups are solely comprised of up to 15 sector representatives and a Councillor. The Terms of Reference were circulated to Councillors in January, prior to the expression of interest process commencing. Minor changes are proposed to the Terms of Reference.
7. The purpose of the Panel is to:
 - (a) provide the City with strategic advice pertaining to development of the night time economy and creativity within the City's local government area;
 - (b) advise the City in implementation of initiatives that the City, its strategic partners or the nightlife and creative sectors elect to adopt; and
 - (c) advise the City in communication and consultation with nightlife and creative sector stakeholders.
8. The Panel will meet quarterly and provide advice to the City on matters, including:
 - (a) preparation, implementation and review of the City's nightlife and cultural strategies and policies;
 - (b) current and emerging issues and opportunities for the nightlife and cultural sectors;

- (c) communication and engagement with the nightlife and cultural sectors and other stakeholders to share information and exchange ideas; and
 - (d) any other issues of relevance.
- 9. Any changes to City programs, activities or existing strategies or policies, stemming from advice by the Panel, will be subject to separate public consultation and consideration by Council as required.
- 10. It is noted that the Panel is not a decision-making body and does not hold any delegated authority from Council. Any recommendations made by the Panel will not fetter the discretion of Council in decision making.
- 11. A call for expressions of interest to nominate for the Advisory Panel was open for three weeks from 5 to 26 February 2018. Expression of interests were published in the Wentworth Courier, Inner West Courier, Southern Courier and Sydney Central Courier on 7 February 2018. Information was posted on the City's website and promoted through social media. City Liquor Accords and other industry and sector networks were notified by email.
- 12. Nominations were received from a total of 126 people across the range of sectors, with four identified as ineligible as they do not reside, work or study within the City's local government area.
- 13. Nominees were assessed by a panel of four City staff from Cultural Strategy, Strategic Planning and City Business and Safety. The applications were assessed against the selection criteria outlined in the nomination form. Consideration was also given to the requirement under the Terms of Reference to include two people under 30 and a Panel composition that represents, as much as possible, the diversity of the City of Sydney local government area.
- 14. There was a large number of nominations with a mix of experience and knowledge across all nightlife sectors. This ranged from venue owners and operators, to industry representatives and performers and academics.
- 15. The endorsed Lord Mayoral Minute from 23 October 2017, specifically noted that the Panel would:
 - (a) require members with a mix of experience, expertise and participation in the cultural, creative and nightlife sectors, particularly in areas relating to the City's cultural, creative and nightlife priorities; and
 - (b) play an important role in helping the City to engage with the creative, cultural and nightlife community and in deepening our understanding of its complex ecology, its challenges and aspirations.
- 16. The composition of the Panel includes people with many years of experience in different sectors and strong networks across the City's nightlife and cultural sectors.
- 17. The recommended Panel members are:
 - (a) Justine Baker, Chief Executive Officer, Solotel Group – representing the café/restaurant sector;

- (b) John Green, Director Liquor and Policing, Australian Hotels Association – representing the hotel sector;
 - (c) Greg Turton, General Manager, World Bar – representing the night club sector;
 - (d) Joy Ng, Owner, The Bearded Tit - representing the small bar sector;
 - (e) Joshua Green, General Manager, Side Bar – representing the small bar sector and one of two Panel members representing the under 30 age category;
 - (f) Kerri Glasscock, Director, Venue 505 / Sydney Fringe Festival – representing performance spaces;
 - (g) Kat Dopper, Director/Producer, Heaps Gay and Mardi Gras Festival – representing festival/event production;
 - (h) Emily Collins, Managing Director, Music NSW – representing live music production;
 - (i) John Ferris, Head of Licensing and Sync, TMRW Music – representing electronic dance music production;
 - (j) James Winter, Director, Brand X Productions – representing theatre and other performance production;
 - (k) Stephan Gyory, Owner, The Record Store - representing the retail sector;
 - (l) Emilyya Colliver, Director / Founder, Art Pharmacy and Culture Scouts – representing the retail sector;
 - (m) Jacob Collier, President, Glebe Chamber of Commerce – representing business associations and the second of two Panel members representing the under 30 age category;
 - (n) Michael Wynn-Jones, Associate, Institute for Public Policy & Governance, University of Technology - representing building and regulatory frameworks; and
 - (o) Phillip Wadds, Criminology Program Convener and Lecturer in Criminology, University of NSW – representing public safety and nightlife establishment security management.
18. A short biography of each recommended Panel member is provided in Attachment B.
19. There were no suitably qualified or eligible nominations for the property development sector, or not-for-profit or academic organisations representing urban planning and the building and regulatory framework sectors. A late expression of interest was received from Michael Wynn-Jones for the building and regulatory frameworks sector and he is recommended for inclusion in the Panel to fill this vacancy. The Terms of Reference also allow the Panel to invite specialists to consult and provide advice on relevant matters when required.
20. To ensure considerations of the Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel are inclusive, it is proposed that ongoing information sharing be established with other City Advisory Panels. A collaborative approach will be taken to involve and obtain input from other panels on matters relevant to the:

- (a) Retail and Tourism Advisory Panel;
 - (b) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel; and
 - (c) Inclusion (Disability) Advisory Panel.
21. The Panel recommended for endorsement by Council comprises emerging creatives with fresh ideas and others with extensive experience across a broad range of sectors, many considered leading experts in their field. There is a sound gender balance, representation from the LGBTIQ community and a balance between nightlife and creative sectors.
22. The inception meeting of the Panel will be held as soon as practicable to enable Panel members to receive an induction and briefing, and nominate the chair, before re-convening later the same month to hold the first meeting.

Key Implications

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030 Vision

23. 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 1 - A Globally Competitive and Innovative City - engage directly with industry experts to help shape policies and programs that contribute to delivering a vibrant, safe and sustainable nightlife and contribute to building Sydney's reputation as a leading night time city.
 - (b) Direction 5 - A Lively and Engaging City Centre - engage directly with industry experts to help shape policies and programs that contribute to delivering a vibrant, safe and sustainable nightlife in the city centre.
 - (c) Direction 6 - Vibrant Local Communities and Economies - engage directly with industry experts to help shape policies and programs that contribute to delivering a vibrant, safe and sustainable nightlife in our village areas.
 - (d) Direction 7 - A Cultural and Creative City - engage directly with industry experts to help shape policies and programs that support growth and integration of cultural and creative programming into the fabric of Sydney's nightlife.

Organisational Impact

24. Secretariat services for the Advisory Panel will be provided by the Night Time City team. Input from other staff will be sought to brief the Panel on the range of programmed activities relevant to the City's cultural life and nightlife.

Social / Cultural / Community

25. Establishment of the Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel will provide a forum that provides an opportunity to foster development of diverse and inclusive nightlife to the benefit of the community.

Economic

26. The Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel will make a positive contribution to the development of the City's strategies and programs that support growth and sustainability of local nightlife and creative businesses.

Budget Implications

27. There are sufficient funds held within the City Business and Safety unit's existing 2017/18 and proposed 2018/19 operating and salaries budget. Provision will be made in 2019/20 and 2020/21 operating and salaries budgets for second and third year commitments towards the secretariat of the Panel.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

28. Members are recommended to Council for endorsement to allow time for the Panel to undergo orientation and convene its first meeting in June. This timeframe will provide adequate opportunity for the Panel to comment on significant reforms affecting the City's nightlife, including the:
- (a) findings and regulatory reforms proposed in the Open and Creative City discussion paper; and
 - (b) review of the late night trading development control plan.

Public Consultation

29. A call for Expressions of Interest was published in the Wentworth Courier, Inner West Courier, Southern Courier and Sydney Central Courier on 7 February 2018. Emails were distributed to all City Liquor Accords, industry and sector networks and included in the City's newsletters and social media.

ANN HOBAN

Director, City Life

Libby Harris, Night Time City Manager