

**Item 14.1****Notices of Motion****Covid-19 Roadmap to Recovery – Nightclub Restrictions**

By Councillor Forster

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) in early September 2021, the NSW Government released details of its roadmap to freedom for fully vaccinated individuals once the state hit a target of 70 per cent double dose vaccinations amongst the eligible population;
- (ii) some of these measures included increased gatherings at home and in public spaces, and the reopening of hospitality venues subject to one person per four square metres inside and one per two square metres outside;
- (iii) in early October 2021, Premier Perrottet released updated details of what life would look like once the state hit a double dose vaccination rate of 70 per cent in early October 2021 then 80 per cent around late October followed by a further easing of restrictions from 1 December 2021, including a one person per two square metre rule and drinking while standing for most hospitality venues;
- (iv) unfortunately, nightclubs will still be the subject of an open-ended one person per four square metre rule once they are allowed to reopen from late October 2021;
- (v) this will preclude the reopening of some venues which were operating safely under the one person per two square metre rule prior to the June 2021 lockdown;
- (vi) nightclubs are an integral part of the City of Sydney's late-night economy and cultural fabric. They are important contributors to the local economy, often run by small business owners, and deserve the same support to reopen in a safe and viable manner as the other hospitality venues in our late-night precincts; and
- (vii) as Sydney emerges from the greatest economic crisis in a century, it is vital that we provide each and every business, large and small, the same opportunity to get back on their feet; and

- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Premier, the Deputy Premier, the Treasurer and the Minister for Health strongly urging them to reconsider the density ratio for nightclubs post-December and reinstate the two square metre rule which applied to such venues from April to June 2021.

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