

Newcastle CBD LIQUOR ACCORD

Date & time	Tuesday 8th August 2023 – 2.00pm
Location	The NEX - Wests City 309 King Street, Newcastle West

Minutes

Welcome and Apologies – Linda Campbell (Foghorn), Emmily Acton (Newcastle City Council, Paul Hunter, Trudi Cupples (Newcastle Licensing Unit) Lucy Glover (Kafey Café), Chris Wilson (The Koutetsu), Mitch Taylor, Tim Owens (Express Liquor), Rob Fahey, Prudence Farquhar (Blue Kahunas)

a. ***Adoption of Previous Minutes & General Business***
Previous Minutes distributed on 1st March 2023

2. **Treasurer's Report** – Paul Hunter

- No expenses since last meeting, \$27,000 in bank.

3. **Chairperson Report / Business Arising** – Mick Starkey

- Gaming signage changes – state government policy being enacted in September. Entry to VIP or gaming rooms can't be any different to any other entry/exit in your venue

4. **Police Report** – Sergeant Trudi Cupples, Licensing Unit Newcastle City LAC

- September – external gaming signage regulations with come into place. Refer to Liquor & Gaming website for further information regarding legislation.
- Sexual touching campaign being run – coasters available for venues. Contact Licensing Unit Newcastle for further resources

5. **General Business**

- First upcoming summer with decreased restrictions - as an Accord lets strive to operate within responsibilities of liquor licences
- Party buses will likely have a large presence this Summer - be vigilant with monitoring these and subsequent RSA
- Possible shortage of security. NSW Government fast tracking crowd control guards into the industry due to industry wide shortage.

- Meeting held last week to inform NSW State Government on their news Arts & Culture policy. Licensed venues will play large part in that Policy in relation to the 'Culture' aspect. Urge to check out website and provide feedback.
- No official word in relation to Supercars renewal
- Paul McCartney coming to Newcastle in October which will increase crowds.
- Situations with patrons starting to arise who have in their possession medical marijuana. Grey area as to whether can smoke in venue – encouraged to make venue specific house policy. In these circumstances Police encourage you to notify them and they will follow normal investigation protocol and determine whether patron has a genuine/legal reason to possess the drug. Onus on patron to prove to Police legitimacy of their claim.
- Theft/break ins seems to be prevalent and escalating at the moment. Specifically, in the CBD but also instances in Adamstown, Kotara & Merewether. Police are aware and urge you to report as soon as the incident occurs. Assists with the collection of forensic evidence. Recommend high levels of lighting, CCTV, additional staff but minors seem undeterred by these responses.

6. Next Meeting – TBA @ The NEX