

Newcastle CBD LIQUOR ACCORD

Date & time	Tuesday 1st April 2025 – 2:00pm
Location	The NEX , Newcastle West

Agenda

Welcome - David Marshal *Licensing Unit Newcastle City Police District*, Priscilla Page *Transport for NSW*, Michelle Lampis *University of Newcastle*,

Apologies – Sarah Mackander (Holiday Inn Express), Sam Sneddon (Ice Box Liquor), Lucy Glover (Kay-Fee Cafe)

1. Adoption of Previous Minutes & General Business

Previous minutes not taken as read. Will be redistributed to membership for reading

2. Treasurer's Report – Paul Hunter. Report that accounts remain unchanged from last meeting with \$28k in funds.

3. Emmily Acton – Newcastle City Council

The City of Newcastle has been successful with funding from State Gov to improve the process of closing roads and streets for events. Initially covers five streets (Laman Street, Darby Street, Beaumont Street, Nelson Street (Wallsend), and Wharf Road. Contact Emmily for more information.

Venues can expect opportunities to provide stakeholder feedback throughout the year as the City of Newcastle looks to design the next iteration of Nighttime Economy strategy.

4. Newcastle City Police - Senior Constable David Marshall - Licensing Unit Newcastle City Police District.

Introduce Jake Prescott to the Licensing Unit. Gave a presentation outlining relevant crime and assault statistics, showing the peak time of late-night Saturday. Noted that in 25% of alcohol-related crime perpetrators reported their last drink was at a licensed premises.

Noted that there have been an increase in the number of venues using ID scanners, and reminded venues to take care to accurately use these tools, especially when taking patrons photos.

Encouraged venues to ensure that police are called if an incident occurs in a venue, and not to assume that another staff member has already made the call.

Encouraged venues who employ security contractors to maintain their own incident logs, and not rely on the logs of the security company.

Noted that hospitals will need generally not test for suspected drink spiking unless it is medically relevant. Venues are encouraged to keep records in incident logs.

Newcastle Police are testing the “Good Sams” platform for collecting material and footage from venues as part of investigations. This platform allows venues to upload footage via a link sent through email. Venues are reminded that sometimes these request emails will land in spam instead, and to be vigilant not to miss these.

Responding to a question about the use of fake photo ID applications, police suggest using the license credential checker tool in the Service NSW app, and to remain vigilant.

5. CCTV in the CBD

Newcastle Police are lobbying Newcastle City Council to assist with the installation and operation of CCTV cameras in certain locations around the city. Some early suggestions are Darby Street, King Street, Beaumont Street, Hunter Street.

The Liquor Accord is very supportive of this, and will work with the City of Newcastle and other stakeholders as the consultation process takes place. Feedback will

6. Secretary Report - Patrick Fisher

Noted that a new website and social media presence for the Accord is under construction. Members are welcome to submit feedback and suggestions for these.

7. Chairman’s Report - Mick Starkey

Venues should take some pre-emptive steps to have crisis management plans ready in event of serious incidents.

Discussion about processes about if there is an incident in the venue and dealing with isolated incidents of anti-social behaviour.

Looking into booking a social media consultant to provide an information session for members advising on online incident response.

8. General Business -

Call for new Treasurer for the Newcastle Liquor Accord. Matthew Orr of the Great Northern Hotel nominated for the role. Nomination accepted.

Meeting closed 2:35 pm