

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Our ref: DF25/074823

Mr Tony Schwartz

BSV Liquor and Gaming Lawyers

11 December 2025

Dear Mr Schwartz

Application No.	SR0001434797 and 1-9565699126
Applicant	James Lawton
Application for	Change of licence boundaries and extended trading authorisation spatial variation
Application date	28 August 2025
Decision date	19 November 2025
Licence name	Men's Gallery Sydney
Licence No.	LIQ0624013940
Trading hours	Monday to Sunday 12:00 PM – 05:00 AM
Premises	41 Oxford Street Surry Hills NSW 2010
Legislation	Sections 3, 11A, 12, 24, 25, 40, 44, 45, 48, 49, 53 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Application for a change of licence boundaries and extended trading authorisation spatial variation – Men's Gallery Sydney

We **approve** the application above under sections 48(3) and 49 of the *Liquor Act 2007 (the Act)* – with the conditions imposed as set out in Schedule 1 and conditions revoked in Schedule 2.

Statement of reasons

We are satisfied that the overall impact of approving the application will be consistent with the objects of the Act and will not be detrimental to the wellbeing of the local or broader community.

Our main findings

The local community for the purposes of this decision is the suburb of Surry Hills. The broader community is the Local Government Area (LGA) of Sydney.

The applicant is seeking to change the licence boundaries and spatial variation of the extended trading authorisation to incorporate all available areas of the building within the licence.

The venue is a live music venue.

Social impacts

We accept that the proposal could contribute to an increase in alcohol-related harm in the local and broader communities because of the:

- premises being in a high-density crime hotspot for all offence types we considered
- incident rates for all categories we considered being higher in the suburb and LGA than in NSW¹
- rate of licensed premises being higher in the suburb and LGA than in NSW¹
- rate of alcohol-attributed hospitalisations in the LGA being higher than in NSW.

However, we note that the factors below weighed in favour of approval of the application, and may also partially or fully mitigate some of the risks identified above:

- there were no objections from government agencies or the community
- Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) data indicates an above average level of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage in the suburb and LGA compared to other communities in NSW²
- the rate of alcohol-attributed deaths in the LGA is lower than in NSW
- there will be no change to the patron capacity or trading hours of the premises
- the premises is operated by an experienced licensee
- the premises has no history of non-compliance
- the harm-minimisation measures outlined in the plan of management and licence conditions, as set out in Schedule 1.

The material we considered

We considered the following material when making our decision:

- the application material — including evidence that stakeholders and the community were notified about the application
- the legislation
- certificate of advertising
- a Statement of Risks and Potential Effects

¹ The Sydney CBD and Oxford Street entertainment areas attract a high number of visitors and workers compared to the local residential population. This may skew both crime and licence density statistics which are calculated using residential population figures alone.

² Research shows that the association between liquor outlet density and assaults is stronger in areas with lower socio-economic status (Association of liquor outlet density with domestic and non-domestic assault in New South Wales; Jiang, H., Riordan, B., Laslett, A-M., Livingston, M., Lee, K., James, D., Stearne, A., & Room, R. (2024)).

- the plan of the licensed premises and any authorisations
- a plan of management for the licensed business
- a development consent for the premises
- statistics from Liquor & Gaming NSW, Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Health and Australian Bureau of Statistics on the socio-economic status, liquor licence density, alcohol-related crimes rates and health issues in the local and broader communities
- L&GNSW compliance materials
- stakeholder submissions and the applicant's response to them.

We also considered [Guideline 6](#) to assess the likely overall impact to the local and broader community and [Guideline 14](#) for applications to change existing licences / increase licence boundary by more than 50%.

This decision will be published.

If you have any questions

Please contact Liquor & Gaming NSW at: new.applications@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Lamb

Chairperson

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Schedule 1: Licence conditions to be imposed - Men's Gallery Sydney

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
1.	Overall impact	The business authorised by this licence must not operate with a greater overall level of impact on the well-being of the local and broader community than what could reasonably be expected from the information contained in the application and other information submitted in the process of obtaining the variation to the extended trading authorisation on 19 November 2025.
2.	Extended trading authorisation	Extended trading authorisation: whole of the licensed premises.

Schedule 2: Licence conditions to be revoked - Men's Gallery Sydney

Condition to be revoked	Reason
<p>Condition 4010 <u>Overall impact</u> The business authorised by this licence must not operate with a greater overall level of impact on the well-being of the local and broader community than what could reasonably be expected from the information contained in the application and other information submitted in the process of obtaining the variation to the extended trading authorisation on 21 May 2025.</p>	Condition superseded – to be replaced with Condition #1 above.
<p>Condition 4040 <u>Extended trading authorisation</u> Extended trading authorisation as marked on the premises plan dated 21 May 2025: a. the whole of the ground floor of the licensed premises excluding the DJ's room, emergency exit passageway and front stairs, and b. the whole mezzanine area of the licensed premises excluding the front stairs, office, and store.</p>	Condition superseded – to be replaced with Condition #2 above.