

12 October 2018

I refer to your client's Notice of Intention (NOI) to apply for extended trading hours (LIQH440018970) located at 75 Rowe Street, Eastwood, NSW, 2122.

Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) has an active interest in measures to prevent or reduce alcohol-related harm such as malicious damage, interpersonal violence, accidental injury and long-term health impacts.

NSLHD has concerns over the Notice of Intention to apply for the proposed extended trading and the negative impacts the increased access to alcohol is likely to generate for the Eastwood community.

These concerns include:

- Eastwood currently has a dense network of alcohol outlets with seven club licences and six hotel licenses located within a 2.8km radius of the Moko hotel. Increased alcohol outlet density is associated with alcohol related harm including malicious damage, interpersonal violence, accidental injury and poor health outcomes.
- Two hotels within 400m of the Moko Hotel already have extended trading hours past 12am. If the Moko Hotel were to extend its trading hours past 12am, this is likely to contribute to increased patron migration in Eastwood. This has the potential to contribute to alcohol related crime, disturbance and adverse impacts to the local and broader community over time.
- The Eastwood area is a hotspot for incidents of malicious damage to property. This indicates that a higher proportion of these offences are occurring within close proximity to the premises.
- Longitudinal evidence from 2001 to 2015 shows that Ryde LGA has had a consistently higher rate of alcohol-attributable hospitalisations than the state average. Most recent health data from 2013-2015 shows that the Ryde LGA has a 15% higher alcohol-attributable hospitalisation rate than the NSW average.
- In 2017, Ryde hospital had an 11% higher rate of alcohol visits when compared to NSW rate as well as a 37% higher rate of late night alcohol visits compared to NSW rate.
- A Bureau of Crime Statistic and Research (BOCSAR) NSW study identified a substantial increase in the percentage of alcohol-related assaults and offensive behaviour commencing from 6pm and continuing to increase until 3am. The applicant is proposing to extend trading for an additional two hours during this period identified as problematic for alcohol-related assaults and offensive behaviour.

Should this proceed to a formal application for extended trading hours, NSLHD would deem it necessary to submit a detailed objection.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rebecca Macnaughton, NSLHD Health Promotion, on 02 8877 5306 or e-mail rebecca.macnaughton@health.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely