

Newcastle/Hamilton Precinct Liquor Accord

Background

Hassle Free Nights is a comprehensive plan to reduce alcohol-related violence and foster safer, more vibrant entertainment districts. It focuses on locally tailored solutions and a cooperative approach between NSW Police, Government agencies, councils, licensed premises, late-trading businesses and communities. Among other things, *Hassle Free Nights* provides increased late night transport options across targeted entertainment districts, new laws to reduce street drinking, powers to regulate trading hours, and the establishment of **Precinct Liquor Accords** (PLAs) in Sydney Central, Manly, Parramatta, Wollongong and Newcastle/Hamilton.

Boundary and participants

On the 6 September 2010 the Director-General of Communities NSW approved the boundary for the Newcastle/Hamilton Precinct Liquor Accord (PLA). Participants in the Newcastle/Hamilton PLA include 41 mandatory late trading licensed venues and a range of voluntary participants.

| Mandatory participants | Voluntary participants |
|--|--|
| Bistro Blue Water Pizza-Starfish Cafe Restaurant Cafe de Beaumont Cambridge Hotel Chinois Restaurant City of Newcastle RSL Sub-branch Club Limited Civic Theatre Clarendon Hotel Crown & Anchor Hotel Crowne Plaza Newcastle Customs House Hotel Delany Hotel Fanny's of Newcastle Gallipoli Legion Club Newcastle Gateway Hotel Newcastle Great Northern Hotel Hamilton Hotel Hamilton RSL Club Hamilton Station Hotel Harbourview Function Centre Honeysuckle Hotel Lee Wharf Hotel CBD Newcastle Kavon Theme Restaurant Kent Hotel King Street Hotel L'incontro Restaurant | Australian Hotels Association (NSW) Community representative Hamilton Liquor Accord Hunter Business Chamber Newcastle Buses and Ferries Newcastle City Centre Committee Newcastle City Council Newcastle City Liquor Accord NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet Regional Coordination Program, Hunter NSW Police Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing – Newcastle office |

| Mandatory participants |
|---|
| M J Finnegans Newcastle City Hall Newcastle Club Limited Newcastle Leagues Club Newcastle Panthers Niyom Thai Restaurant Northern Star Hotel Queens Wharf Brewery Hotel Scratchley's on the Wharf Restaurant Silk Hotel Sydney Junction Hotel The Beaumont Exchange Hotel The Depot on Beaumont Wickham Park Hotel Wine Centre Tavern |

Measures

A Precinct Liquor Accord is a set of measures, approved by the Director-General, Communities NSW, that aim to do either or both of the following:

- To minimise or prevent alcohol-related violence or anti-social behaviour, or other alcohol-related harm, in the precinct to which the relevant liquor accord applies
- To protect and support the good order or amenity of any such precinct in connection with issues arising from the presence of, or any proposed increase in the number of, licensed premises in the precinct

The Newcastle/Hamilton Precinct Liquor Accord was developed by participants at meetings on 12 October and 16 November 2010, and approved by the Director-General, Communities NSW, on 25 February 2011. The final measures were based on extensive PLA participant, industry and stakeholder feedback.

'Six Steps to a Hassle Free Night' campaign

'Six Steps to a Hassle Free Night' is a practical, promotional campaign to reduced alcohol-related, anti-social behaviour in the Newcastle and Hamilton Precinct Liquor Accord areas.

| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| 1. | Cast, rehearse, costume fit stewards/stewardesses for four-week campaign | Werrin Communications | Approximate cost is \$30,000 with 50% met by Government. Cost for mandatory participants is \$15,000. Equal distribution between mandatory participants. Approximate cost is \$366 per venue. |
| 2. | Design and manufacture five uniforms | Werrin Communications | |
| 3. | Design and print 10,000 safety cards and 300 A1 posters | Werrin Communications | |
| 4. | Update Drinking Safety website | Werrin Communications | |
| 5. | Display posters and safety cards | Venues | |

Licence condition

The licensee must:

1. promote the 'Six Steps to a Hassle Free Night' campaign, and
2. ensure that bar, wait and security staff are aware of, and can provide information on, the campaign.

RSA on the Frontline workshops

Restaurant, bar and security staff will attend *RSA on the Frontline* workshops to learn practical tips, strategies and useful security practices. NSW Police (Newcastle Local Area Command) will be invited to commit officers to assist with the workshops.

| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
|--------------|--|-----------------|--|
| 1. | Develop appropriate workshop content, including restaurant and small bar focus | Communities NSW | Mandatory participants to meet in-kind costs |
| 2. | Schedule multiple workshops to allow for maximum participation | Communities NSW | |
| 3. | Send as many staff as possible to the workshops | Venues | |
| 4. | Monitor the number of attendees from each venue | Communities NSW | |

Licence condition

The licensee must ensure that at least one manager/supervisor and one staff member required to hold an RSA certificate attend an *RSA on the Frontline* workshop delivered by Communities NSW.

This condition only applies if the licensee has received two weeks prior written notification of the date, time and location of the workshop.

Precinct Safety Assessment (additional measure imposed by the Director-General)

The Precinct Safety Assessment will be a separate component of existing safety plans. The Assessment must articulate the responsibilities of the venue and actions being undertaken to contribute to the development of a safe and vibrant entertainment precinct.

| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
|---------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| 1. | Undertake a Precinct Safety Assessment by 31 March 2011 | Venues | Mandatory participants to meet in-kind costs |
| 2. | The Precinct Safety Assessment must consider, but not be limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• safe design principles• issues relating to patron capacity• mechanisms for detecting patrons who have pre-fuelled• management of the entry and dispersal of patrons, in particular queuing and late night arrivals. | Venues | |
| 3. | Strategies in the assessment to be implemented by 7 April 2011 | Venues | |
| 4. | All staff to be informed of the Precinct Safety Assessment and the strategies the venue is initiating to promote a safe and vibrant entertainment precinct | Venues | |
| 5. | A copy of the assessment entitled 'Precinct Safety Assessment' to be kept in the venue's RSA Register | Venues | |
| 6. | Precinct Safety Assessment to be made available to local police and/or OLGR inspectors | Venues | |
| 7. | The Precinct Safety Assessment's effectiveness is to be reviewed after three (3) months and again at intervals of six (6) months | Venues | |

Licence condition

1. The licensee must prepare a Precinct Safety Assessment for the licensed premises by 31 March 2011.
2. The Precinct Safety Assessment must be systems based and adopt a continuing risk reduction approach to address:
 - a. safe design principles
 - b. issues relating to patron capacity
 - c. mechanisms for detecting patrons who have pre-fuelled, and
 - d. management of the entry and dispersal of patrons, in particular queuing and late night arrivals.
3. A copy of the current Precinct Safety Assessment must be maintained at the licensed premises and made available for immediate inspection by members of the NSW Police Force or inspectors from the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing.

Supplementary measures to support the Newcastle/Hamilton PLA

| Improve amenity and environment (Newcastle only) | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Newcastle City Council will progress plans for revitalising Hunter and King Streets. Plans may include improved street lighting, more public toilets, designated routes between licensed premises and street cleaning. | | | |
| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
| 1. | Newcastle City Council will work with Newcastle Liquor Accord and mandatory participants on issues relevant to local licensed venues | Newcastle City Council | N/A |
| 2. | Plans for improvement of amenity and environment will be in line with Council's Management Plan | Newcastle City Council | |

| Establish a CCTV network in Newcastle City and Hamilton | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Enhanced lighting and establishment of CCTV network. | | | |
| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
| 1. | Newcastle City Council will work with key stakeholders including Hamilton Liquor Accord, Newcastle Liquor Accord, mandatory participants and local Police to develop a proposal for identified enhancements to street lighting, CCTV cameras, and associated signage that alerts people to the presence of these cameras | Newcastle City Council | N/A |

| Review public toilet options | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Review of the condition of public toilets and the cost of opening these at night in entertainment districts. | | | |
| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
| 1. | Newcastle City Council will work with the Hamilton Liquor Accord, Newcastle Liquor Accord, and mandatory participants to determine public toilet requirements and how access might be improved through a user-pays arrangement | Newcastle City Council | N/A |

Consider a review on the costs, benefits and practicalities of a trial of ID scanners in late night licensed venues

Further consideration is to be given to the practicalities, cost and benefits of undertaking a trial of ID scanners in late-night licensed venues in the Newcastle and Hamilton PLA precincts.

| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
|--------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Review current literature/research on the effectiveness of ID scanners | Communities NSW | N/A |
| 2. | Newcastle/Hamilton PLA members to consider the review and make an informed decision on the costs and benefits of a potential trial of this technology in this PLA | Venues | |

Crime Scene Preservation Procedures

Venues are to follow a formal set of procedures for crime scene preservation in the case of a violent incident on their premises. The procedures are articulated in the 'Crime Scene Preservation Guidelines' (NSW Police, July 2010).

| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
|--------------|---|-----------------|--|
| 1. | Crime Scene Preservation Guidelines followed as required | Venue | Mandatory participants to meet in-kind costs |
| 2. | All venue staff to be made aware of the procedures outlined in the Guidelines | Venue | |
| 3. | Guidelines are reinforced as part of <i>RSA on the Frontline</i> training | Communities NSW | |

Precinct Charter

The Precinct Charter will focus on the key areas seen as important by precinct stakeholders. It will outline the rights and responsibilities for both customers and businesses.

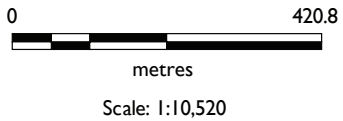
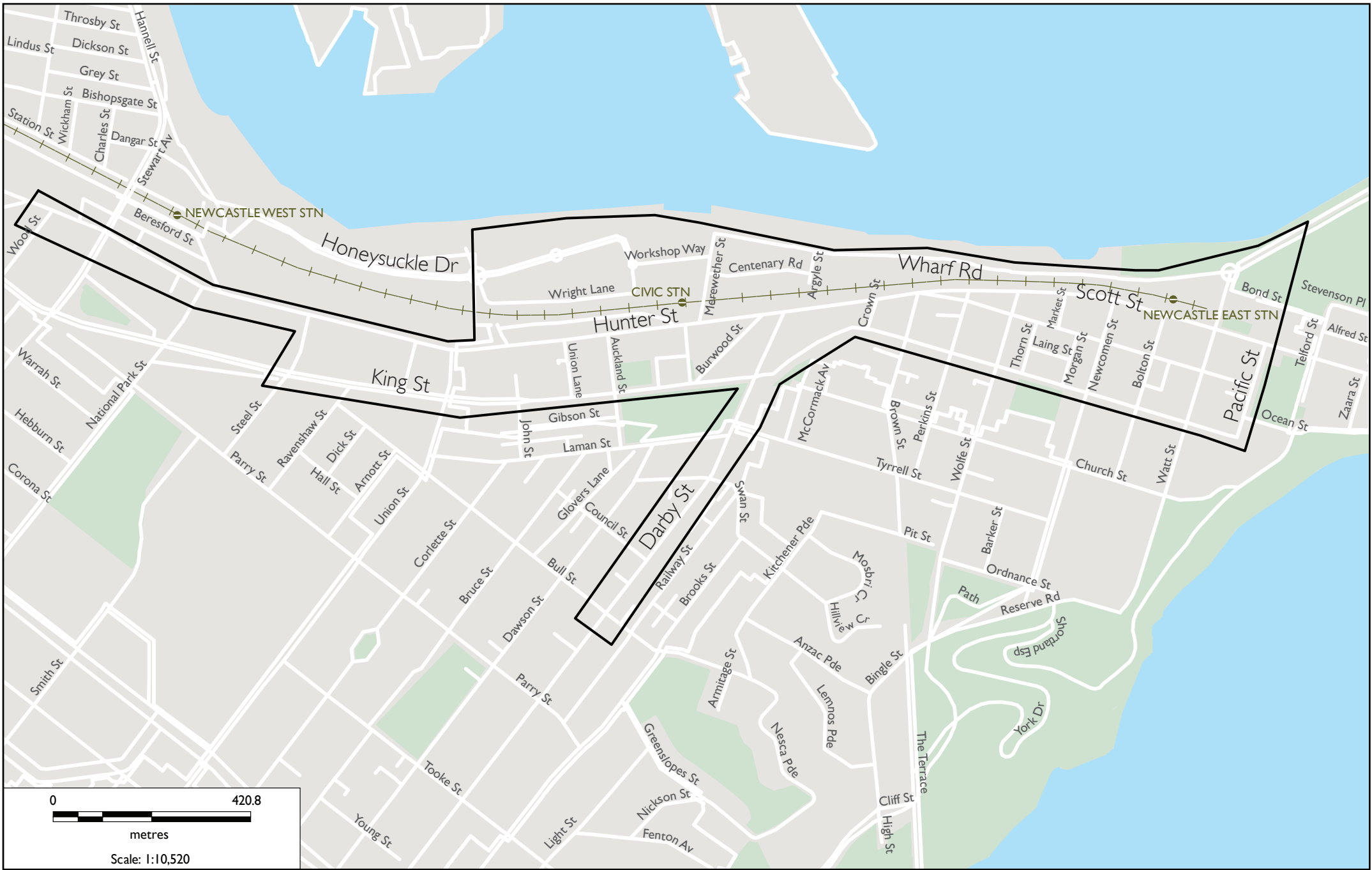
| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
|--------------|--|---|--|
| 1. | Draft the terms and principles of the Precinct Charter by 31 March 2011 | Communities NSW in consultation with stakeholders | Mandatory participants to meet in-kind costs |
| 2. | Seek feedback from mandatory and voluntary participants in the PLA to ensure it is tailored to local needs | Communities NSW | |
| 3. | Support the Precinct Charter and ensure all staff are aware of it | Venue | |
| 3. | Display a copy of the Precinct Charter in a prominent position in the venue | Venue | |
| 4. | Communities NSW will recognise venues for supporting the Charter | Communities NSW | |

Individual responsibility resource for 16 to 18 year olds

This resource will educate young people on the risks associated with alcohol use, the accountability and impacts of their behaviour on themselves, friends and the community.

| Deliverables | | Responsible | PLA Cost Contribution |
|--------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Work with stakeholders to develop and trial the resource | Communities NSW | N/A |
| 2. | Provide support and input as required | Venues | |

Note: Supplementary measures form part of the PLA agreement but are not licence conditions. The support of all members is sought to help enhance the safety and amenity for the precinct and to reduce the risk of harm.



 PLA boundary

