



## **Consumer and Business Services**

95 Grenfell Street

Adelaide

SA 5000

20 January 2023

### **Submission to the Review of SA's Liquor Licensing Late Night Trading Code of Practice (Late Night Code)**

The Adelaide Business Collective (ABC) is an independent city-wide business group with over 300 members across the Adelaide CBD and North Adelaide. ([www.adelaidebusinesscollective.com.au](http://www.adelaidebusinesscollective.com.au))

The ABC has been a vocal advocate for improving business vitality in the City of Adelaide particularly in light of increasing competition in retail and hospitality from the suburbs and the effects of COVID 19.

The nighttime economy is important contributor of the vibrancy and economic success of cities. It is critical however that the **whole** city economy exists in balance without one sector have a damaging impact on the other. Day trade can lead trade into night through the early evening and night needs to wind down for a period of dispersal and cleansing prior to the commencement of the morning business activity. The 24-hour city requires a period of rest and recuperation to be a genuinely sustainable and viable place.

Prior to the introduction of the Late-Night Code, the West End of the city in particular was a very difficult place to conduct business. This clustering of 24-hour licensed venues and the anti-social behaviors of patrons in the early hours of the morning drove business out of the precinct.

*Hindley St trader Jason Lake doesn't mind cleaning vomit off his shopfront when he arrives at work - he just doesn't want to see the culprit throwing up at 9am.*

*The Imprints Booksellers co-owner says arriving at work to find vomit, faeces and broken glass left behind by drunken revellers is part and parcel of city trading.*

*"But I don't want to see people vomiting or have my staff stepping over intoxicated people when they get to work." (Advertiser 2011)*

Since the introduction of the code incidents such as this describe above have become extremely rare if nonexistent from the very first night of the code coming into effect.

The West End was widely regarded as a 'no go' zone for many locals and tourists alike.

*'I hate the smell of stale piss and vomit on a Sunday morning irradiating down Hindley St. Its pungent to so you can smell it as you approach Hindley coming from King William!'*



Following the growth of new businesses afforded by the late-night code and small venue license the West was lauded by Lonely Planet as one of the coolest neighbourhoods in Australia.

<https://www.experienceadelaide.com.au/live/city-neighbourhoods/west-end/>

We note that the late-night trading venues have not ceased trading as a result of the code but rather there has been an increase in the number of these venues and a broader variety of hospitality offerings (around 6 new nightclubs and dozens of small bars) attracting a broader clientele to the benefit of the precinct and city as a whole.

Private and public investment in and around the West End has been unprecedented during the last 10 years with the RAH, SAHMRI, UniSA, Adelaide Oval and Casino redevelopments coming to fruition.

There has also been an increase in the number of high-quality accommodations offers in the area (Sofitel, Holiday Inn, Mayfair) with more planned for the future. (QT).

The diversity of offerings has included education providers, many new food businesses and a plethora of professional services business on the upper levels of the precinct.

Other developments are still seeing opportunity in the area such Trinity City

<https://trinitycity.com.au/and> urban climb <https://citymag.indaily.com.au/habits/a-climb-and-a-cocktail-in-the-heart-of-the-city/>.

We would argue that the winding back of the code **in particular the 3am Lock in** puts future growth of this part of the city at significant risk and urge the Office of Consumer and Business to maintain the Code certainly over the next 10 years. It has been a game changer for business in the West End in particular.

If the city as a whole is going to prosper, we need safe and attractive nighttime precincts that are complement the day trade does not affect its viability (and vice versa) The Late night code has bought balance to this relationship and is a vital component of policy and legislation for our city.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Wallace'.

**Andrew Wallace**

Chair

Adelaide Business Collective inc.



