

16 August 2024
Councillors
City of Sydney
Dear Councillors

Proposed removal of timed outdoor alcohol restrictions in Glebe

The Society supports the Save Our Bays Inc's submission dated 16 August 2024 a copy of which is attached to our letter.

Glebe has many parks which are in close proximity to residences & it is important that a balance is struck to protect the residents' amenity. Everyone is entitled to a good night's sleep in their own home.

The Society believes the current restrictions get the balance about right & the restriction which prohibit the drinking in parks after 10.00 pm is a sensible one.

Although not happy with antisocial behaviour at any time residents recognise that compromise needs to be made & they make those compromises most days. A quiet drink in the park is not the problem. It is the offensive & threatening behaviour that too often comes with late night drinking which brings the Police & Emergency Services to the park which is the problem. We do not want residents getting into confrontations with unruly drinkers. That never ends well.

To use the average statistics to claim that alcohol fuelled antisocial behaviour in Glebe is not a problem ignores the fact that many of the incidents are not reported. Many residents believe the police are powerless or too slow to act & no longer report incidents.

The fact the Police do not support the removal of the alcohol restrictions in Glebe is significant. They are the ones who must attend when the situation gets out of hand. It is wrong to make their job harder than it already is.

The proposed removal of the current restrictions is particularly galling for long term residents of Glebe who remember what it was like before the current restrictions were imposed & know it is much better today. Why would you want to risk going back to the days before the current restrictions were

introduced? Today we cannot see what benefits the removal of the existing restrictions could bring.

The Society's view is the proposed removal of the existing outdoor alcohol restrictions be suspended & the Council conduct a full consultation with affected residents, police & emergency services to assess what are the most likely consequences of the proposed removal of the restrictions.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Duncan Leys', written in a cursive style.

Duncan Leys
President
The Glebe Society Inc