



Anti-Alcohol Group Singles Out Spirits in Kings Cross and Risks Creating a '10 O'Clock Swill'

The Distilled Spirits Industry Council of Australia (DSICA) has described lobby group Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education's (FARE) plan to ban one type of alcohol after 10pm as seriously flawed and likely to create even more problems, with drinkers just consuming more alcohol before the deadline.

DSICA spokesman Stephen Riden said that the idea "seriously risks pushing drinkers into a 10 o'clock swill. They'll adapt to the cut-off by taking on a 'last drinks' mentality and that's an unintended consequence they clearly haven't considered."

Before 6:00pm closing times for hotels was abandoned, drinkers back then simply consumed very large quantities of beer very quickly before the deadline, leading to heavy intoxication and bad behaviour as a consequence.

Mr Riden said that "just focussing on banning shots, doubles and pre-mixed drinks after 10pm is a plan without logic or any chance of success. If you really want to stop violence in Kings Cross, you'd start by understanding that alcohol is alcohol, irrespective of how it is made.

"A ban on one type of alcohol will see drinkers' respond by switching to other types. Have these well-meaning but misguided people given any thought to beer and wine or do these products suddenly become alcohol-free after 10pm?"

"FARE's 10-point plan sadly appears to exploit the acknowledged problems of Kings Cross and the tragic death of Thomas Kelly to pressure the NSW government into sweeping bans and new regulations across the state."

"The abuse of alcohol by some people is a problem that the distilled spirits industry takes very seriously and we will always seek to work with Governments to find solutions.

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