



Media Release
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NSW emergency service workers congratulate QLD on alcohol laws

NSW emergency service workers have congratulated Queensland on passing laws similar to those that have seen a significant decrease in alcohol-fuelled assaults in Newcastle and the greater Sydney area.

The Queensland Government passed the life-saving laws overnight.

Last Drinks coalition spokesperson and Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation (NSW) President Dr Tony Sara said it is fantastic that Queenslanders will now get to experience the decrease in alcohol-fuelled violence that community members and emergency service workers in Sydney and Newcastle have witnessed.

"It's wonderful that Queensland has looked to NSW for inspiration on how to address the serious issue of alcohol-fuelled violence," Dr Sara said.

"The Queensland Premier was spot on when she said that the culture of booze fuelled bashings in the early hours of the morning must end and that these laws will help achieve that.

"This is a huge win for the people of Queensland. Queensland streets are going to be safer than ever as a result of these laws.

"Prior to the introduction of the modest alcohol restrictions in the greater Sydney area, emergency service workers were run off our feet dealing with horrific violent assaults every single weekend. The number of innocent people ending up in our emergency wards, or worse, was out of control.

"Since the measures have been introduced, dangerous assaults have decreased by 32 per cent in Kings Cross. There's no denying our streets are much safer as a result of these important measures.

Dr Sara said emergency service workers are urging the NSW Government to look at rolling the life-saving alcohol laws out into other alcohol hotspots across the state.

"Every community deserves to know that everything possible is being done to protect them from the scourge of alcohol-fuelled violence.

The Last Drinks coalition represents NSW emergency service workers and includes doctors, police, nurses and paramedics.

Visit www.lastdrinks.org.au for more information.

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