1. Violence in and around licensed venues is a serious problem for Queensland. While a number of measures have been implemented to address alcohol and drug-related violence, such as the state-wide lockout, a moratorium on late-night trading hours and the Drink Safe Precinct trials, the problem has continued.
2. On 23 March 2014, the Queensland Government released the draft Safe Night Out Strategy. The draft Strategy proposed a number of initiatives to better deal with alcohol and drug-related violence. Public consultation closed on 21 April 2014.
3. A significant majority of respondents indicated they supported or strongly supported the Strategy as a comprehensive range of responses likely to be effective to address alcohol- and drug-related violence.
4. The key elements of the final Safe Night Out Strategy are:
* changing the culture — through mandatory school-based alcohol and drug education programs and other initiatives, including a communications initiative, to make it clear that everyone is responsible.
* changing the law — by increasing police powers, licensing and penalties including mandatory community service orders and compulsory alcohol and drug counselling to make it clear that bad behaviour won’t be tolerated.
* providing safe and supportive environments — through initiatives including establishing Safe Night Out Precincts and improved transport arrangements.
1. Legislation is required to implement the measures associated with increased penalties; banning orders, community service, drug and alcohol counselling, Sober Safe Centres; liquor licensing compliance measures; Safe Night Out Precincts including networked ID scanners.
2. An Implementation Panel will be established to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Strategy.
3. Cabinet approved that the Safe Night Out Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
4. Cabinet approved the public release of the Safe Night Out Strategy.
5. Cabinet approved establishment of the Safe Night Out Strategy Implementation Panel.
6. *Attachments*
* [Safe Night Out Legislation Amendment Bill 2014](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)
* [Safe Night Out Strategy](Attachments/Strategy.pdf)