



**Thursday 28 November 2019**

## **HARM ON THE HORIZON FOR NSW**

**28 November 2019:** The Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) fears the NSW Government will end up regretting the day it rolled back Sydney's late-night alcohol measures.

"This is a reckless and populist decision that will only make alcohol more accessible, inevitably resulting in higher levels of consumption, which the science has proven causes greater harm," said FARE Policy Director Trish Hepworth.

"The fallout from this decision will reverberate through families and communities in Sydney, as well as in every town and rural community across NSW – not only impacting drinkers, but their children, spouses, friends, colleagues, strangers," Ms Hepworth said.

FARE has particular concerns that both last-drinks and trading hours for bottle shops are being extended and expanded beyond Sydney's entertainment precincts.

"Delaying the decision to relax alcohol trading and sales until after the busy festive season, smacks of tacit acknowledgement that greater alcohol-fuelled harm is on the horizon," Ms Hepworth said.

**Trish Hepworth is available for interview.**

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The **Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE)** is an independent, not-for-profit organisation working to stop the harm caused by alcohol. Alcohol harm in Australia is significant. Nearly 6,000 lives are lost every year and more than 144,000 people are hospitalised making alcohol one of our nation's greatest preventive health challenges.

For over a decade, FARE has been working with communities, governments, health professionals and police across the country to stop alcohol harm by supporting world-leading research, raising public awareness and advocating for changes to alcohol policy. In that time FARE has helped more than 750 communities and organisations, and backed over 1,400 projects around Australia.