



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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CRACKDOWN ON TATTOO PARLOURS BIKIE COLOURS BANNED FROM KINGS CROSS VENUES

Bikies will be banned from owning or operating tattoo parlours and barred from wearing their colours at 58 pubs, clubs and restaurants in Kings Cross as the NSW Government ramps up its attack on crime, Premier Barry O'Farrell announced today.

Mr O'Farrell said the community had had a gutful of outlaw motorcycle gangs and other organised crime groups who thought they were untouchable.

"No-one in NSW is above the law and we are serious about ensuring police have all the tools they need to bring a halt to the shooting spree which has hit our city," Mr O'Farrell said.

"Today I reaffirm my commitment to provide the NSW Police with the powers they need to do their job.

"Wearing your club colours does not make you some sort of superhero, impervious to the law."

Mr O'Farrell said the package to be taken to Cabinet on Monday would:

- Introduce a licensing regime for tattoo parlours that provides the Police Commissioner the power to refuse licences;
- Amend the *Crimes (Criminal Organisation Control) Act 2012* to add tattoo parlour operations to the list of prescribed activities in which controlled members of declared criminal organised are not permitted to participate;
- Amend the *Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002* to allow the use without warrant of drug detection dogs and firearms and explosives detection dogs in tattoo parlours.

Mr O'Farrell said the Director General of Trade and Investment Mark Paterson, whose department oversees the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing, had advised from Friday 27 April, members of 23 outlaw motorcycle and crime gangs will be banned from wearing their colours in 58 late-trading Kings Cross nightspots.

The bans come after NSW Police made a submission under the liquor laws and follows the banning of club colours at 65 other venues in western Sydney and the Illawarra.

“This ban on bikie colours provides police with an extra weapon to keep the Kings Cross precinct safe,” Mr O’Farrell said.

“It also gives licensees legal force to refuse entry to gang members seeking to take over their venue and intimidate staff and patrons.

“From April 27 any person wearing any clothing, jewellery or accessory linked to one of these 23 gangs will be prohibited from entering or remaining on these licensed venues.”

The Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione has welcomed the new measures.

“This is what our police have asked for and I am sure these measures will help them get on with the job,” Commissioner Scipione said.

“We have seen the problems caused by outlaw motorcycle gangs in Kings Cross. Police are sick and tired of bikie gangs in colours entering premises and intimidating staff and patrons.

“This is also about assisting licensees to provide safe venues for their patrons.”