

## Media Hakim

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**From:** DPIE PA Codes Mailbox  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 10:43 AM  
**To:** Media Hakim  
**Subject:** FW: Webform submission from: The Fun SEPP

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**From:** noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au <noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 10:15 AM  
**To:** DPIE PA Codes Mailbox <codes@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <eplanning.exhibitions@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: The Fun SEPP

Submitted on Thu, 04/11/2021 - 10:15

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Emilija

**Last name**

Rupsys

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

[eclipse.flow.entertainment@gmail.com](mailto:eclipse.flow.entertainment@gmail.com)

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2066

**Please provide your view on the project**

I am just providing comments

**Submission**

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in respect of the proposed changes under the Fun SEPP. I applaud the NSW Government for taking active steps to support the live arts industry return and prosper into the future.

I am a performing artist and I run a small business providing live performance entertainment to venues and clients across the Sydney CBD and Greater Sydney. COVID-19 has had a tragic, stifling impact on my arts practice and my small business. At times I considered giving up my small business altogether as a non-viable source of income.

Firstly, the most important part of any development in the small live music/arts venues and temporary events space is that it needs to be supported by appropriate funding. Although permits may allow small business venues to host live entertainment, given all the

hardships faced by these venues, restaurants and bars for many months, many may not have adequate funds to undertake the work required to convert their business to a small live arts venue and to pay performing artists a market rate to perform at these venues, unless the event is ticketed – which has a further administrative burden and associated cost. To make the live arts accessible to a broader audience, government funding should support venues to work with performing artists in order to create unique and engaging offerings for diverse audiences who have range of personal budgets for enjoying entertainment.

By way of example, before the latest lockdown I had weekly residency shows at a couple of restaurants and bars – one of which was located at Liverpool. As an artist I was grateful to have a steady, reliable income stream from these shows. However, because of the impact of COVID and the losses these restaurants and bars have made over periods of lockdown, many have expressed a reluctance at bringing live entertainment back too soon, as they are still recovering financially from the loss of business and customers for over 3 months, and are operating at a reduced capacity due to current restrictions.

The NSW Government grants scheme is extremely prohibitive and does not frequently award funding to independent, for-profit artists. There are often eligibility restrictions or other guidelines that have acted as a barrier to me and many others in my industry to gain funding to create and deliver new works in the past.

Specific funding is needed that will directly respond to and support the proposed changes. This funding should be targeted to assisting and facilitating individual artists collaborating with small businesses keen to take advantage of these changes. In these particular circumstances, the funding should not be directed to not-for-profits or existing large arts organisations as they do not meet the aims of this particular initiative, which as I understand it is to support the independent arts industry after some of the hardest times it has ever faced.

One way of facilitating this initiative is to establish a register of interested artists on one hand and interested venues on the other. Those who have expressed interest in the initiative could then contact and collaborate with each other to create a unique arts experience idea and concept. Concepts created under this collaboration could then apply together for government funding. A similar initiative was attempted by City of Sydney Council in 2020 for night-time diversification through a platform called “Collabosaurus”. In my view this platform was poorly suited to the exact services being offered, however, lessons learned from the City regarding this platform could be adapted and expanded to assist with state-wide initiatives such as this one. This collaborative platform could be set up with minimal initial cost from the government but have significant, long term benefits for arts and the economy.

#### Small live music or arts venue

In principle, I support this initiative whole-heartedly. My comment on the regulations are that in my view, the times for “small live music or arts venue” should be extended to midnight for Monday – Saturday and to 10pm for Sunday. Most people do not finish work during the week until 6pm which leaves a narrow window of entertainment on Thursdays and Fridays which are very popular times for small venues. Frequently, arts productions run two shows on the same evening to maximise profits, as all the equipment, performers and production are already in place. This extension of time would allow for additional shows to be added to a live arts venue, increasing profit and preventing artists and venues from being unnecessarily constrained by times to ask audience members to leave.

#### Temporary events

Again, in principle, I agree with the proposed measures to increase the number of small event on private land. However, it seems strange to provide as an example a monthly food market and then introduce a limitation such as 2 days during a 12 month period. The limitation should be increased to at least 12 non-consecutive days to allow for monthly events. Depending on the relevant LGA, hours of operation should also be extended to midnight for Monday – Saturday to support the night time economy, as mentioned above.

I look forward to receiving further updates about the proposed changes and in the future, working with businesses to deliver arts to a range of audiences across NSW. Please feel free to contact me to discuss my ideas regarding open collaboration between venues and artists.

Emilija  
Founder, Eclipse Flow Entertainment

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes