



The Hon Paul Fletcher MP

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts

Senator Hollie Hughes

Liberal Patron Senator for the Hunter Region

Media Release

Friday 15th October 2021

SUPPORT FOR LIVE MUSIC INDUSTRY – EMBARGO UNTIL 12.01AM FRIDAY 15TH OCTOBER

The Morrison Government is supporting the return of live music, with two venues across the electorate of Paterson sharing in more than \$2.5 million, as part of round three of the Live Music Australia program.

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, said the program will bring more original live Australian music to communities across the country – from pubs in the remote outback, to clubs in major capital cities.

“This funding will help the live music sector to re-emerge as Australians continue to get vaccinated and COVID-19 restrictions ease, allowing venues to begin to reopen and rebuild,” Minister Fletcher said.

“It is important that our live music sector will be primed to host performances and gigs when permitted to do so, and by supporting these local venues now, we are increasing opportunities to see Australian artists get back on stage.”

Liberal Patron Senator for the Hunter Region Hollie Hughes said the funding will provide much-needed support for local live music venues to rebuild, while also stimulating the economy and igniting excitement back into our community.

“I’m pleased to announce that **Shoal Bay Country Club** has received **\$32,000** to support local live musicians and the live music industry in regional areas, and the **Criterion Hotel in Weston** has received **\$26,340** for equipment upgrades and increased programming of original music to help grow a local, sustainable live music culture through Round Three of the Live Music Australia Program,” Senator Hughes said.

This funding brings the Government’s investment to more than \$8 million since the start of the program, supporting more than 300 live music venues and the recovery and sustainability of the live music sector.

Applications for Round Four of the Program will open later this year, with funding to support venues from mid-2022 as they continue to re-establish regular programming of original live Australian music.

The Morrison Government is investing more than \$1 billion into the arts and creative sector in 2021-22. For the list of round three recipients and for information on how to apply for round four, visit: www.grants.gov.au or www.arts.gov.au.

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