



## CROWN SYDNEY RETAINS CASINO LICENCE

**April 23, 2024:** Crown Resorts and Crown Sydney (Crown) acknowledge today's decision by the New South Wales Independent Casino Commission (NICC) that Crown Sydney has been found suitable to retain its casino licence. The decision follows the recent announcement by the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (VGCCC) that [Crown Melbourne was also found suitable to retain its casino licence](#).

Crown has invested \$200 million in a comprehensive transformation of its business, implementing extensive reforms across harm minimisation, financial crime, governance, compliance, and risk. This work has been implemented under new ownership and executive leadership, following the acquisition of Crown by Blackstone in June 2022, as well as the implementation of new Boards, including Crown Sydney's Board under the Chairmanship of John Borghetti.

Crown Sydney has introduced rigorous standards to deter and detect money laundering as part of its ongoing focus on financial crime prevention. As part of this, Crown Sydney was the first in NSW to introduce cashless gaming on all Electronic Table Games (ETGs). This, coupled with Crown's innovative and industry-leading harm minimisation program, Crown PlaySafe, has transformed Crown Sydney into the safest place to gamble in the State.

Crown Sydney will continue to work constructively and collaboratively with the NICC to implement the requirements outlined today as it relates to the casino licence, and ensure ongoing compliance with industry regulations and standards.

The \$2.2bn Crown Sydney resort opened in December 2020 as an anchor resident of Barangaroo and since then, has attracted millions of visitors to the area. Today, Crown Sydney is home to award-winning restaurants and bars, a world-class hotel and has cemented itself as part of the iconic Sydney skyline.

Crown Perth continues its transformation activities and implementation of its remediation plan, which is due to be submitted to the Perth Independent Monitor by the end of January 2025.

### Commentary

**Crown Sydney CEO, Mark McWhinnie:** "Since opening the Crown Sydney casino in August 2022, we have worked tirelessly to implement wholesale reform across our business, delivering 432 remediation activities to the NICC across key areas, including harm minimisation, financial crime, compliance, risk, and culture.

"The NICC's decision today recognises the genuine and sustainable changes we've made and our ongoing commitment to operating at the highest industry standards. I would like to thank the NICC, led by Chief Commissioner, Philip Crawford, for his continued leadership, professional engagement and commitment to regulatory reform.

"Crown Sydney is the safest place to gamble in the State."

"Today's outcome would not be possible without the unwavering hard work and dedication of our team and while we take a moment to recognise this milestone today, we know that the work doesn't stop here. Our transformation has laid the pathway for the future so we can exceed the expectations of our guests, team members, stakeholders and the community."



**Crown Resorts CEO, Ciarán Carruthers:** “Under the ownership of Blackstone, who brought in new executive leadership, management, and Boards, the Crown of today has been rebuilt from the inside out. We’ve spent the past two years pioneering a monumental transformation unlike anything seen before in corporate Australia.

“We remain committed to Crown’s ongoing cultural transformation, compliance, and ensuring that we are the safest gambling venue in Australia while providing a fun and entertaining environment for our guests. We must continue to build and maintain trust and respect while showing that success and commercial viability go hand in hand with trust, care and integrity.

“I would like to thank Philip Crawford for his leadership of the NICC and echo his sentiment that we must remain steadfast in our commitment to suitability, accountability and compliance.

“I am immensely proud of what our team has accomplished with two of our three properties being found suitable to retain their casino licences and we continue to focus on our ongoing remediation work in Perth.

“We know holding a casino licence is a privilege and an obligation we take extremely seriously. We will continue to build trust with our communities and stay focused on our vision to become a beacon of excellence for integrated resorts.”

**-ENDS-**

## **Media Notes**

- Crown Sydney first opened in 2020, with the casino opening in August 2022. In February 2024, Crown Sydney unveiled its [revamped casino experience](#).
- The Sydney Remediation Action Plan delivered 432 initiatives across nine workstreams, covering critical areas such as financial crime, compliance and risk, Crown PlaySafe, and culture. As a result of these initiatives and Crown Sydney’s overall transformation, Crown Sydney is now the safest place for gaming in New South Wales.
- Crown Sydney’s transformation has included the introduction of [Crown PlaySafe](#) to amplify harm minimisation efforts, prioritising guest wellbeing and taking a preventative approach towards gambling harm.

For more information, please contact:

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