



Alex Greenwich MP
State Member for Sydney



Dave Sharma MP
Federal Member for Wentworth

16 August 2021

The Hon. Don Harwin MLC
Minister for Arts
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Minister

Supporting the live events sector

As you would be aware, the live events sector is under significant strain due to current lockdown restrictions. Confidence has taken a significant hit. Even when restrictions are lifted and live events can resume, the uncertainty is likely to continue to pose a significant hurdle for those who stage and underwrite live performances, which will have flow-on and detrimental effects throughout the sector.

Other jurisdictions, such as the United Kingdom, are addressing this persistent uncertainty through a reinsurance scheme. The UK's Live Events Reinsurance Scheme will run until September 2022 and cover costs incurred in the event of cancellation due to the event being legally unable to take place as a result of government restrictions. Event organisers are able to purchase this government-backed cover, alongside standard commercial events insurance, providing the certainty and safety-net they need to plan future events and incur the outlays which go with such planning.

We believe there would be merit in the NSW Government providing or underwriting a similar insurance policy for the live events sector in NSW, to give confidence and stability to the sector and ensure it can recover fully from the pandemic, and we urge that you consider this.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dave Sharma'.

Dave Sharma MP
Federal Member for Wentworth

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Greenwich'.

Alex Greenwich MP
State Member for Sydney