

2 February 2022

R&CA Submission

Pymont Peninsula sub-precinct master plan



Restaurant & Catering Australia (R&CA) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on the Pymont Peninsula sub-precinct master plan.

R&CA is the national industry association representing the interests of more than 50,000 restaurants, cafés and catering businesses across Australia. The café, restaurant and catering sector is vitally important to the national economy, generating over \$37 billion in retail turnover each year as well as employing 350,000 people.

Over 93 per cent of businesses in the café, restaurant and catering sector are small businesses, employing 19 people or less.

Pymont is a unique and diverse precinct with a rich heritage. Home to thousands of local residents it is also a global destination for tourists. With the addition of the planned Metro, Pymont has the opportunity to unlock even further and significant economic potential which, in turn, will create opportunities for numerous new small businesses in the restaurant and hospitality sector.

Following two years of volatile consumer demand, financial hardship and a massive skill and staffing crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, R&CA strongly recommends that the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) prioritises investments in hospitality and tourism in order to kickstart the NSW economy as we emerge from the pandemic.

As one of the largest employers and investors in NSW's hospitality and tourism sector, R&CA support The Star Sydney's proposed masterplan to build two new hotels along with associated entertainment offerings and bars, restaurants and cafes. However, R&CA note that the latest version of the DPE plans for The Star Sydney include conditions that would restrict the developments as proposed by The Star. Industry strongly encourages DPE to work

collaboratively with The Star Entertainment Group (and other stakeholders in the Pyrmont precinct) to ensure any commercial requirements are factored into consideration when finalising planning controls. Without this, the NSW Government risks seeing significant investment diminished.

These investments are essential at a time where the tourism, hospitality and entertainment sectors are seeking to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, reemerge on an international stage and ensure Sydney is a competitive, world class destination. Without a strong investment pipeline, Sydney risks becoming less competitive as a global destination, and as a result will attract fewer valuable visitors who spend less and do not generate as much economic activity as we could otherwise expect.

We thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Regards,



Wes Lambert CPA FGIA MAICD

Chief Executive Officer

Restaurant and Catering Australia

Restaurant
& Catering