



MEDIA RELEASE



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AHA NSW ATTENDS PREMIER'S SYDNEY SUMMIT

Ideas focussed on revitalising the Sydney CBD, removing unnecessary restrictions and increasing visitation to support struggling hospitality businesses were raised at the third Sydney CBD Summit today by AHA NSW CEO John Whelan.

Mr Whelan represented the hotel industry at the summit, which was hosted by NSW Premier Dominic Perrottet and included many members of the NSW Cabinet.

Mr Whelan gave credit to the Premier and Treasurer for holding the summit, held to workshop ideas to revitalise the CBD in the wake of COVID.

"I'd like to thank the Premier and Treasurer for bringing together such a high level group of people for the third time to discuss ways to bring the CBD back to life," Mr Whelan said.

He said AHA NSW welcomed moves by Government to cut red tape and allow members' to utilise more space including private carparks for al fresco dining but said more should be done to immediately ease pressure.

"Our CBD venues are still subject to COVID restrictions, mandatory QR scan-ins and are suffering because Sydney is yet to see the return of office workers, international tourists and cruise ships," he said.

"There is clearly lots to be done to support all NSW hotels and it is pleasing to see Premier Perrottet so focussed on the revitalisation of the hospitality industry."

The head of the AHA's sister association - Tourism Accommodation Australia NSW - CEO Michael Johnson also attended the summit.

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