



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **CALL AHEAD – HOTELS READY FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING AS DINING AREAS RE-OPEN FOR UP TO 10 PEOPLE**

Hoteliers have asked the public to please respect social distancing regulations when many venues around NSW re-open their dining areas for up to 10 people at a time from tomorrow.

AHA NSW Director of Liquor and Policing John Green said while hoteliers were pleased to see parts of their much loved venues re-open, it was important people maintain a safe social distance, inside and outside the hotel.

“People wanting to head to their favourite local for a meal and a drink from tomorrow must remember there are still strict social distancing measures in place,” he said.

“Call ahead and make bookings and if you must queue outside stay 1.5metres apart and observe social distancing regulations.

“Hotels are proud of the role they have played in combating this pandemic, we have always put the health of staff and patrons first and will continue to do so as we re-open.”

Mr Green praised the NSW Government and Premier Gladys Berejiklian for agreeing to re-open the dining areas of hotels in line with restaurants and cafes.

“This is a common-sense decision – a step forward for struggling pubs especially in regional areas,” he said.

“We are one of the most heavily regulated industries in the country – with large venues and the capacity to socially distance.

“While some larger venues in particular may not find it economically viable to re-open at the moment, we value having the opportunity to open our doors once again to our communities across NSW.”

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