



## MEDIA RELEASE



**Tuesday, 29 June 2021**

### **ASSISTANCE PACKAGE MUCH NEEDED FOR HOTELS**

The Australian Hotels Association has welcomed the NSW Government's assistance package for businesses hard hit by Sydney's lockdown.

AHA NSW CEO John Whelan said the tax deferrals and hospitality grants would assist hoteliers forced to close their businesses and stand down staff during the lockdown.

"It has been a constant battle for hotels since the pandemic hit our shores in March last year," Mr Whelan said.

"NSW hotels have operated at a maximum of 50% capacity for the past 15 months.

"Saturday's closure saw each of the impacted hotels stand down staff and throw out thousands of dollars' worth of fresh produce."

"I would like to thank NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet and the Berejiklian Government for moving so quickly to put together this assistance package.

"The pubs might be closed but the bills keep coming in, so the grants for impacted businesses are particularly appreciated.

"I would also like to encourage people in the community to continue to visit their local pub in country and regional NSW – and, where possible, by supporting the closed hotels offering takeaway."

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