



MEDIA RELEASE



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DEVASTATED HOTELS WELCOME ASSISTANCE

The Australian Hotels Association NSW has welcomed a raft of new State and Federal initiatives aimed at supporting businesses and staff during the current COVID lockdown.

AHA NSW CEO John Whelan said a range of lockdown support measures including increased staff support and business grants would help struggling hoteliers.

“This 2nd shutdown has been devastating for our staff and hoteliers,” Mr Whelan said.

“The support is desperately needed and is welcomed.

“NSW hotels have operated at a maximum of 50% capacity for the past 16 months and the latest lockdown has hit particularly hard. More than 50,000 Greater Sydney-based hotel staff are now out of work.

“The pubs might be closed but the bills keep coming in. This support will allow us to keep our head above water during this difficult time so we’re able to open our doors when the lockdown ends.

“It’s pleasing to see the Disaster Payment extended into regional NSW where businesses are dealing with their own tough set of restrictions.

“Government at all levels have listened to us and our staff and have acted quickly,” Mr Whelan said

Media Contact: Nikki Taylor 0447 956 170