

**Wednesday, 30 September 2020**

## **RENTAL CODE EXTENSION A BOOST FOR STRUGGLING HOTELS**

Tourism Accommodation Australia National CEO Michael Johnson said the extension of the Retail and Other Commercial Leases – Code of Conduct will provide much-needed relief to accommodation hotels struggling to stay afloat.

Speaking to 32 of the Sydney’s leading hotel General Managers at the Hyatt Regency yesterday, Mr Johnson welcomed the State Government’s extension of the regulation till 31 December 2020.

He said the announcement will give commercial tenants greater certainty as they try and get back on their feet.

“For hotels, motels and serviced apartments rent is one of the biggest fixed costs, so anything that helps ease this burden is welcome,” he said.

“This extension will allow a few months extra breathing space as they begin the long recovery process.

“We thank the State Government for listening to our industry’s concerns and moving quickly to adjust to the evolving pandemic.”

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres was the guest speaker at the first TAA Sydney and Western Sydney GM’s luncheon held since February.

Mr Johnson said the Minister spoke to and took questions from, the socially distanced group of gathered GM’s, congratulating them on the front-line role CBD hotels played in the Quarantine Hotel Program.

“Minister Ayres gave the group a great insight into the whole of government response to Covid-19 and was very complementary about the work our GM’s and their teams played in the critical hotel quarantine program,” said Johnson.

“He also explained the State Government’s support for the New Year’s Eve fireworks display, which was welcome news to CBD hotels who rely on the event to bring in much needed accommodation revenue.”

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