Independent planning decision for new executive lounge and rooftop bar in Darling Harbour

An application to construct an executive lounge and a rooftop bar at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Darling Harbour has been referred to the independent Planning Assessment Commission for determination.

GL Investment’s proposal seeks to construct an executive lounge at level 11 and a public bar with outdoor deck at level 12 of the hotel.

The application was exhibited for community feedback for 30 days from mid-July 2015 and received 43 submissions. The key issues raised in submissions included view loss, noise impacts and social impacts.

Following a detailed assessment, the Department has recommended the project be approved subject to conditions including a noise complaints register to record future noise complaints and approaches taken to address them.

“The Department has completed its assessment report and has sent its findings and recommended conditions to the Commission for determination,” a spokesperson for the Department of Planning and Environment said.

The Department’s assessment found that despite some view impacts, the proposed development is reasonable for the site given its location and the height and scale of surrounding buildings.

The Department is satisfied that the proposed development is consistent with the current hotel operation. The applicant will be required to obtain a revised or new liquor license and ensure that measures are in place to manage and mitigate alcohol consumption and intoxication.

The Planning Assessment Commission will now consider the Department’s report and conditions as well as community submissions to make a final decision on the proposal.

“The Planning Assessment Commission is an important part of the NSW Planning system, ensuring that major developments are subject to expert, independent review and assessment,” the spokesperson said.

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