

INQUIRY INTO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE SYDNEY HARBOUR FORESHORE AUTHORITY

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Subject:

Summary



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Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Inquiry into the Management of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority

On behalf of the board and members of the Darling Harbour Business Association we wish to make comment on the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA) management of Darling Harbour relative to Items (c) & (f) of the Terms of Reference of the Inquiry.

Our Association has forty-eight members representing some 200 businesses throughout the Darling Harbour precinct. Many of these businesses are involved in lodging development applications with SHFA ranging from major building works, matters relating to the staging of events in public spaces down to a wide variety of lesser building works and other matters.

Our perception is that SHFA has always maintained a very correct approach in quarantining the division which assesses development applications from other divisions within the Authority.

We also believe they have maintained a transparent approach relative to their planning assessment methods and processes. Indeed, if we have any complaint, it would be our perception that they are almost too conscientious in their desire to leave no stone unturned in the discharge of their statutory responsibilities.

We have not experienced any instances of SHFA extending any favour relative to any development application. We have been able to maintain open and frank lines of communication with the Authority even if these exchanges have sometimes been at the more robust end of the spectrum.

In short we have found the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority to be professional and proper in the management of their planning assessment methods and processes.

We trust that the above information will be useful to the Committee in the conduct of your Inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Grieve
Chief Executive Officer