

RELEVANT INFORMATION FOR COUNCIL

FILE: S117676 **DATE:** 20 October 2017
TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors
FROM: Ann Hoban, Director City Life
THROUGH: Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 7.3 – Report – Grants and Sponsorship – Round Two 2017/18 – Environmental Performance Grants: Ratings and Assessments and Innovation – At Council – 23 October 2017

That the Lord Mayor and Councillors note the information contained in this memo.

Purpose

To provide further information to Councillors about an environmental performance grant recommendation for \$10,000 to The Star Entertainment Group to undertake a Green Star - Performance assessment and certification for The Star Sydney building.

Background

The City's Environmental Action 2016-2021 strategy and action plan, adopted in March 2017, commits the City in action 5.11 to "encourage and support building owners within the accommodation and entertainment sector to improve their environmental performance".

The uptake of third party verified environmental ratings in the accommodation and entertainment sector is low, despite clear evidence from the commercial office sector that the use of ratings is a strong driver for achieving improved building performance.

The City's Environmental Performance Grant - Ratings and Assessment Program supports organisations to undertake audits that identify opportunities to reduce environmental impacts and/or third party verified environmental ratings that benchmark performance. Successful grant applicants commit to implement recommended efficiency improvements.

The Star Sydney is a facility of considerable scale, employing more than 4,500 people, and featuring more than 600 rooms of accommodation across three hotels, approximately 35 restaurants/bars, the 2,000-seat Sydney Lyric Theatre as well as a casino gaming area.

The Star Sydney has undertaken a significant amount of environmental improvement action over the last few years. A Green Building Council of Australia's Green Star - Performance certification would provide a third party verified sustainability assessment of operations, support year on year measurement of performance improvements, and identify further efficiency opportunities.

The recommendation for grant funding acknowledges the City's commitment to support the accommodation and entertainment sector to drive down emissions and water use and to demonstrate their performance publicly. In assessing the application, the assessment panel judged that further material opportunities will be identified and implemented through this project. This would spur further action in the accommodation and entertainment sector as one of the largest operators leads the way.

Ann Hoban, Director City Life

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Approved

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. M. Barone', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer