

Fire Safety Reports

File No: S1005001.002

Summary

The City of Sydney has received inspection reports with recommendations from Fire and Rescue NSW in relation to inspections carried out on buildings located within the City's local government area.

Fire and Rescue NSW has powers under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the Act) to carry out inspections of buildings and it is required to forward its findings to the City.

Fire and Rescue NSW reports received by the City are required to be tabled before Council. Council is then required to determine whether or not to exercise its power to give a fire safety order under Division 9.3 and Schedule 5 of the Act (previously s121B of the Act). This determination may be made at the next meeting of Council held after the tabling of the Fire and Rescue NSW reports.

Attached are details of the reports received by the City from Fire and Rescue NSW that are required to be tabled.

The attachments deal with a specific property and include the Fire and Rescue NSW report and the findings (preliminary or final) by the City's Investigation Officer, along with other documentation relevant to that property.

A recommendation is made in the attachment setting out the action that is recommended to be the most appropriate to take in the circumstances.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) note the contents of the Fire Safety Report Summary Sheet, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) note the inspection reports by Fire and Rescue NSW, as shown in Attachments B to G of the subject report;
- (C) not exercise its power to issue a Fire Safety Order under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 at this time but note the compliance action taken and as recommended by the City's Investigation Officer in 19-35 Bayswater Road, Potts Point, known as "Flamingo Lounge" as detailed in Attachment B;
- (D) exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order as recommended by the City's Investigation Officer to address the identified fire safety deficiencies at 99-105 Darlinghurst Road, Potts Point, as detailed in Attachment C;
- (E) not exercise its power to issue a Fire Safety Order under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 at this time but note the compliance action taken and as recommended by the City's Investigation Officer in 39-43 Darlinghurst Road, Potts Point, known as "Showgirls", as detailed in Attachment D;
- (F) exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order as recommended by the City's Investigation Officer to address the identified fire safety deficiencies in 27 Orwell Street, Potts Point, known as "Jolly Swagman Backpackers", as detailed in Attachment E;
- (G) not exercise its power to issue a Fire Safety Order under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 at this time but note the compliance action taken and as recommended by the City's Investigation Officer in 250 Pitt Street, Sydney, known as "The Penthouse", as detailed in Attachment F; and
- (H) exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order as recommended by the City's Investigation Officer to address the identified fire safety deficiencies at 53-59 Great Buckingham Street, Redfern, as detailed in Attachment G.

Attachments

- Attachment A.** Fire Safety Report Summary Sheet
- Attachment B.** Inspection Report - 19-35 Bayswater Road, Potts Point
- Attachment C.** Inspection Report - 99-105 Darlinghurst Road, Potts Point
- Attachment D.** Inspection Report - 39-43 Darlinghurst Road, Potts Point
- Attachment E.** Inspection Report - 27 Orwell Street, Potts Point
- Attachment F.** Inspection Report - 250 Pitt Street, Sydney
- Attachment G.** Inspection Report - 53-59 Great Buckingham Street, Redfern

Background

1. The City receives inspection reports and recommendations from Fire and Rescue NSW in relation to inspections carried out on buildings located within the City's local government area.
2. Under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, (the Act), Fire and Rescue NSW has the power to carry out inspections of certain buildings to determine if the building has adequate provision for fire safety and/or is compliant with legislation.
3. On average, the City receives approximately 50 such reports each year. They can be prompted by reports from the Police or other people who have a concern relating to fire safety in a building.
4. When Fire and Rescue NSW carries out such an inspection, a report and any recommendations must be provided to the City.
5. Under the Act, Council is then required to table the report and make a determination as to whether it will exercise its power to issue a Fire Safety Order 1 or 2 in Schedule 5, Part 2 of the Act. Fire Safety Order 1 requires a person to do, or stop doing, certain specified things to improve fire safety; Fire Safety Order 2 requires a person to cease conducting an activity on premises where that activity constitutes, or is likely to constitute, a life-threatening hazard or a threat to public health or public safety.
6. Attached are the details of the reports received from Fire and Rescue NSW, including recommendations for further action. The properties have also been reviewed by a City Investigation Officer.
7. Personal information has been redacted from these reports in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Relevant Legislation

8. Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

GRAHAM JAHN, AM

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