

Attachment A

Proposed Local Government NSW Motion

Council Name: City of Sydney

Contact Details of Relevant Council Officer: Pip Harley, Sustainability Engagement Manager

Motion Category: Environment

Motion title Government accommodation procurement and environmental ratings

Motion wording

That the Local Government and Shires Association of New South Wales (LGNSW)

(i) calls upon the Federal and NSW governments to establish a mandate that government officers only use hotels holding a third party environmental performance rating or certification for metropolitan based accommodation requirements

(ii) asks Councils to introduce policies to preference hotels holding a third party environmental performance rating or certification for metropolitan based accommodation requirements

Motion Background

When countries around the world signed the Paris Agreement in 2016, they were committing to limit global temperature increases to less than 2°C. The accommodation sector is a key sector where energy efficiency and emissions reduction opportunities exist. International Tourism Partnership research reports that the sector globally must reduce its absolute carbon emissions by 60% by 2030 to play its role in meeting Paris commitments.

Third party certified environmental ratings, such as NABERS Energy, Green Star Performance and EarthCheck Certified, help building owners and managers understand how efficiently their building is running, and from there, opportunities for improvement. Sustainability ratings are also an important communication tool for visitors and corporate guests to easily compare environmental performance. Getting a rating is neither expensive nor onerous, however hotel providers tell us that they will get a rating when their customers demand it. As some of the largest accommodation procurers across the nation, Federal and NSW Government leadership is critical. If these government entities were to require that any metropolitan-based hotels where their staff stay hold a rating, this would transform energy efficiency in the accommodation sector. In the longer term, minimum standards could be set.