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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I would be pleased to support a hotel development in the Woollooware Bay precinct and would welcome the benefits and opportunities for the local economy this would provide.

The Sutherland Shire has a very limited supply of visitor accommodation and therefore presents a barrier to growing overnight visitors in the Shire.

Overnight travellers to NSW spend four times more than day trippers and with approximately 1 million day trip visitors to the Sutherland Shire each year, there is a clear opportunity to convert many of these to overnight stays and realise the economic and employment benefits for the area.

Council recently engaged The Stafford Group to compile The Sutherland Shire Destination Management Plan. One of the key opportunities identified in the report was the development of a 3.5 – 4.5 Star high quality hotel to add to the critical mass of short term accommodation available.

A hotel would also complement the Woollooware Bay development which already has residential, retail, commercial and entertainment services. With this area now being serviced by a shuttle bus this transport will provide a link to the Cronulla area which hosts sporting events attracting national and international visitors.

There would be additional economic advantages to the Sutherland Shire in terms of employment and the ability to attract additional large events with the increase in hotel room capacity.

I support Capital Bluestone in their application for a hotel at Woollooware Bay as it would bring further economic growth to the Sutherland Shire local government area.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Carmelo Pesce
Mayor