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TOURISM BOOST GOOD NEWS FOR ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation Australia NSW General Manager Stacey McBride said increased support for tourism, nightlife and major events in today's state budget was welcome news for the Accommodation sector.

Ms McBride said Destination NSW will receive \$324.5 million in funding and will prioritise the development of a 'Foundation Events' category, recognising and supporting the role that key events play.

She also said the new Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport will have a focus on growing the creative and tourism industries in NSW.

"Time and time again we have seen the huge impact major events have on the wider accommodation and hospitality sectors" said Ms McBride.

"We saw it with one off events like World Pride, the Taylor Swift tour and the FIFA Women's World Cup and we see it each year with recurring events like the Sydney Festival and Vivid."

"Events boost occupancy and visitation and flow on through food, beverage and retail. Any investment in events is an investment in the visitor economy."

Included in the Budget is \$1.66 billion in measures to support the arts and night time economy, including \$26.9 million to support the development of night time precincts across the state.

\$5.5 billion has also been allocated to the Sydney Metro-Western Sydney Airport, including the delivery of Stage 1 of a Rapid Bus Project which will link Penrith, Campbelltown and Liverpool with the new Airport.

"A big thank you to the NSW Government for recognising the importance of the tourism economy and listening to the needs of the industry," said Ms McBride.

"We look forward to working with them to further drive tourism's value to our sector and the broader economy of NSW."

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