

ITEM A LORD MAYORAL MINUTE - ESTABLISHING A CRUISE TERMINAL AT PORT KEMBLA

Between 2016 and 2019, Wollongong hosted seven cruise ship day visits (including Royal Caribbean International and Norwegian Cruise Lines ships). The day visit of Radiance of the Seas in 2016 alone generated around one million dollars for the city's visitor economy. A turn around port brings a far greater financial return with passenger overnight stays (pre and post cruise) and the provision of supplies and services. The estimated economic benefit for a single turnaround visit can be valued at \$1.75 million.

According to the NSW Government, the cruise industry contributed \$4.4 billion to the NSW economy in 2023-24 and created more than 13,700 jobs.

A cruise terminal at Port Kembla would be a game changer giving the hotel industry confidence in Wollongong as a viable market.

A panel of cruise and tourism industry experts has been established by the Hon Jo Halen MP, Minister for Transport, to work on identifying the preferred location for a potential new cruise terminal in NSW. This is an opportunity to highlight why Wollongong and Port Kembla boasts overwhelming reasons to be selected as the preferred site.

RECOMMENDATION

I therefore recommend that Wollongong City Council –

- 1 Provide a submission to the Cruising Industry Advisory Panel to highlight Port Kembla as the most suitable location for a new cruise terminal in NSW.
- 2 Request that the Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation make a submission to the Cruising Industry Advisory Panel outlining the significant regional economic benefits of establishing a cruise terminal at Port Kembla.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.