



JAMES GRIFFIN MP

MEMBER FOR MANLY

Dear Mr Brownlee,

I write in regards to the Freshwater Class Ferries. I would like to thank Council for their advocacy on the matter.

In October 2020, Council unanimously adopted Notice of Motion 44/2020 "Save the Large Manly Ferries".

Council will of course be aware that two Freshwater Class Ferries have been retained by the NSW Government and will operate every weekend and on public holidays, year round.

With the MV Freshwater and MV Collaroy both continuing their operations, the NSW Government welcomes interest from organisations to continue operating the remaining two ferries for tourism and heritage purposes.

Council has vigorously advocated that Freshwater Class ferries are important to our local tourism economy.

Item three of the Notice of Motion requests Council prepare an 'impact assessment' in conjunction with the Manly Business Chamber regarding the ferries.

I encourage the Council include in its 'impact assessment' the development of a business case, or consideration of the procurement and/or operation of the remaining Freshwater Class Ferries by the Northern Beaches Council and analysis of the potential benefits to tourism development on the Northern Beaches.

It is unfortunate that over the last 10 years, visitor expenditure growth on the Northern Beaches has significantly lagged behind Greater Sydney (3.24% pa vs 9.12% pa)¹. The Northern Beaches Council Destination Management Plan presents a number of recommendations that align with exploring the possibility of Council retaining one, or both, of the two ferries for tourism and heritage experiences. For example, the Destination Management Plan recommends tourism industry development, and the development of destinations and experiences that are memorable.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Minister for Transport.

Sincerely,
James Griffin MP

¹<https://eservices.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/Common/Output/LoadGenWebDoc.ashx?id=Tx2kyZ3pUr0V0A60ki4OEg%3d%3d>

