



Restaurant  
& Catering

SAVOUR  
AUSTRALIA



10 December 2019

Susan Rudall  
Manager Strategy, Planning and Partnership  
City of Adelaide  
By email: [strategicplan@cityofadelaide.com.au](mailto:strategicplan@cityofadelaide.com.au)

Dear Ms Rudall

Restaurant & Catering Australia (R&CA) is the national industry association representing the interests of more than 47,000 restaurants, cafés and catering businesses across Australia. The café, restaurant and catering sector is vitally important to the national economy, generating over \$37 billion in retail turnover each year as well as employing 450,000 people. Over 92 per cent of businesses in the café, restaurant and catering sector are small businesses, employing 19 people or less.

R&CA delivers tangible outcomes to small businesses within the hospitality industry by influencing the policy decisions and regulations that impact the sector's operating environment. R&CA is committed to ensuring the industry is recognised as one of excellence, professionalism, profitability and sustainability. This includes advocating the broader social and economic contribution of the sector to industry and government stakeholders, as well as highlighting the value of the restaurant experience to the public.

R&CA appreciates the opportunity to provide a submission to the Draft City of Adelaide 2020 - 2024 Strategic Plan, we believe the strategic plan sets clear priorities for the city and supports the need to continue to grow the city of Adelaide as a key tourism and hospitality hotspot in South Australia.

As the only national industry association acting on behalf of the café, restaurant and catering sector, including more than 2,500 individual businesses in South Australia, R&CA is keen to be actively involved in the continued development of the City of Adelaide's Strategic Plan. Collectively, our industry employs 41,800 people across the state and is expected to generate an additional 8,600 new positions by May 2023 and over 87 per cent of all South Australia's cafés, restaurants and catering businesses are small businesses employing 19 people or less.

Restaurants, cafes and hospitality providers are a critical component of the retail and tourism offering in Adelaide. Restaurants complement the retail offering in shopping precincts, encouraging greater patronage and expenditure, while activating leisure destinations. Coffee, alcoholic beverages and food at restaurants while shopping for pleasure are the two most popular activities for international and domestic visitors to Adelaide.



RESTAURANT & CATERING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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R&CA would like to provide its strong support for the draft strategic plan, in particular proposals under the outcome 'Strong Economies' relating to red tape removal and lower costs for business backed by strategic aimed at reducing and streamline Council policies, permits and fees.

R&CA would be particularly keen to work with the City of Adelaide to reduce re-tape and streamline approvals around Outdoor dining permits for restaurants and cafes. '

As part of our 2019 Benchmarking Report we saw a significant drop in the number of restaurants who offer outdoor dining, with cost and council approvals listed as key barriers to for businesses. Of those surveyed, 59.3 per cent of respondents indicated that they currently have an outdoor dining area at one of their businesses which was lower than the 2018 survey (74.6 per cent) and the 2017 survey (75.4 per cent).

More than two thirds (69.5 per cent) of all respondents reported that their outdoor dining space was part of a lettable space agreed to with their landlord, whereas 30.5 per cent indicated that their outdoor dining space was leased from the Local Council. The responses received in the 2019 survey are slightly down from those received in the 2018 and 2017 survey, where 74 and 74.7 per cent indicated that their outdoor dining space was part of a lettable space agreed to with their landlord and 26 and 25.3 per cent leasing their outdoor dining space from their Local Council.

If you wish to discuss R&CA's views further, do not hesitate to contact Tom Green, Manager – Policy and Government at R&CA by email at [tom@rca.asn.au](mailto:tom@rca.asn.au).

We thank you again for the opportunity to make this submission.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Wes Lambert', written in a cursive style.

**Wes Lambert CPA FGIA MAICD**

Chief Executive Officer

Restaurant and Catering Australia