

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Rottnest Island Authority

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Hon Diane Evers asked:

B1: With reference to the Rottnest Island developments, what work has been done with regard to ensuring the preservation of the environment and cultural heritage as well as the current amenity value?

Answer:

The Discovery Eco Village Rottnest Island and Hotel Rottnest Resort proposals are for a total of 163 new accommodation rooms on the Island:

- Rottnest Island Authority (RIA) thoroughly investigated the sites cultural heritage
 through the preparation of a Heritage Impact Statement and an Aboriginal Heritage
 Survey as part of the assessment process for Pinky Beach. An Aboriginal Heritage
 Survey was prepared in September 2017, with no sites identified.
- The State Heritage Office reviewed and supported the proposal subject to a number of conditions, including a reduction in the height of the food and beverage facility and preparation of an Archaeological Management Plan, Interpretation Management Plan and a Landscape Management Plan. These all formed conditions of the Development Approval.
- From an environmental perspective the development has been considered by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and granted the appropriate approvals. The development retains 151 trees (over 76%) with the majority of those being removed due to disease or distress.
- The development also underwent a public consultation process for a period of 3 weeks, which included a community information session. During this process the RIA received more than 250 submissions with the majority in support of the proposal.
- An Aboriginal Heritage Survey and Heritage Impact Statement was prepared for the Hotel Rottnest Resort. An Aboriginal Heritage Survey was prepared in September 2017 and did not identify any sites. The State Heritage Office reviewed and supported the proposal subject to a number of conditions, including a greater separation between the new function facilities and the State Heritage Listed Governor's Residence, as well as, the preparation of an Archaeological Management Plan, Interpretation Management Plan, Landscape Management Plan.
- The development also underwent a public consultation process for a period of 3 weeks which included a community information session.