

CAMDEN COUNCIL

Media Release



25 July 2014

Submissions sought on Council's Draft Outdoor Dining Policy

Camden Council wants to hear from the public on its updated draft Outdoor Dining Policy which will be on public exhibition from Wednesday 30 July until Wednesday 27 August 2014.

Key proposals of the draft Outdoor Dining Policy are:

- Stainless steel tactile markers installed on the footpath to clearly mark out where tables and chairs are permitted
- An unobstructed carriageway of 2 metres between the shopfront and tables and chairs to allow safe and easy pedestrian access
- Ability for businesses to apply for dining space in front of neighbouring properties with written permission from the neighbouring owner
- A change from \$50p.a. per chair fee to a \$50p.a per square metre fee, allowing businesses more flexibility in configuring their tables and chairs
- Businesses with existing outdoor dining approval will not be charged to roll over their approval under the new policy

"I would like to encourage shop owners, in particular eateries, as well as residents to review the draft policy and make a submission", Mayor Lara Symkowiak said.

"This is a very positive and timely policy given the Camden Town Centre Improvement Works are also on public exhibition and propose the widening of the footpaths along Argyle Street. The footpath widening will not only allow for additional outdoor dining space for local businesses, but will also provide greater flexibility for the configuration of tables and chairs as well as improved access and carriage way along the main street for pedestrians".

"Camden Council is committed to promoting the development of outdoor dining in the Camden LGA. Outdoor dining plays a significant role within the economic environment of Camden and continues to make a substantial contribution to public spaces and urban life as well as help provide an active main street for the town".

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“The proposed Outdoor Dining Policy and Camden Town Centre Improvement Works have not been formally adopted by Council. Council resolved to publicly exhibit these documents allowing everyone to have their say before any final decision is made by Council”.

“This policy is just one part of the package of exciting works that is proposed for the Camden Town Centre. The proposed Outdoor Dining Policy will complement the first stage of the Camden Town Centre improvements as it proposes to increase footpath width on Argyle Street by 1 metre on each side, improve footpath slope and drainage and upgrade the street furniture and paving material”.

The draft Outdoor Dining Policy, associated documents as well as the Camden Town Centre documents are be available at Council’s Customer Service Centres as well as Camden and Narellan Libraries and Council’s website.

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Words: 428

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