

PRESTIGE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

A STEP CLOSER FOR RICHMOND CLUB



Artists impression

COVER STORY

Prestige hotel accommodation a step closer for Richmond Club

A deal with an international hotel group is about to be signed to operate a prestige 100-room accommodation development at the Richmond Club site.

Developer, Axiom Properties Limited, which last month purchased a 2212 square-metre surplus portion of the club, at the corner of Francis and East Market streets, Richmond, is securing the operator.

The hotelier, which has 16 world class hotel brands in more than 70 countries, offers leisure and business travellers accommodation in key, full-service locations. Once the hotelier is secured, the regular planning approval and consent process gets underway prior to construction.

The hotel will feature 100 well-appointed rooms and its own underground carparking. It will front East Market Street with associated landscaping incorporated into the greater club site design. The proposed operator has an ethos of green surrounds and promotion of local products which also allows Richmond Club to provide local products through existing catering services, as well as new designs being planned with the integration of the Club's indoor and outdoor facilities.

The land sale now allows Richmond

Club a \$2.8 million fit out of function rooms, which will link through to the hotel, complementing local and tourist conference, corporate and business facilities. It will also link up with the club's "Hawkesbury Golf" tourism concept, devised five years ago. The golfing concept is based on the Murray Valley Victorian border tourist concept which will enhance a greater Hawkesbury network of golfing "stay and play" facilities.

"Our business diversification will ensure Richmond Club Group continues to provide core services for the Hawkesbury community, including aged care and welfare services, child health and wellbeing services, function, sport, conference and entertainment facilities for schools and organisations," Richmond Club CEO, Kimberley Talbot said.

She also stated that a bigger picture will be presented to the members for their



Artists impression of the proposed development.

development in Richmond is ideally placed."

The club is committed to finding workable options for the impending relocation of a bowling green and Active8 Gym and Fitness Centre.

"We are doing our utmost to make sure we keep all members happy and actively playing bowls, as well as having access to our 24-hour gym and its health and wellbeing programs," Ms Talbot confirmed.

"The Hawkesbury has been missing this type of 'integration' concept that successfully operates in

other major inner and western Sydney city regions. We are perfectly poised to move Hawkesbury City into the future with these types of integrated developments - a vision shared by many local business leaders.

"The 20-year journey to bring hotel accommodation to the site is exciting for local economic growth, employment, tourism and event opportunities in the Hawkesbury."

feedback of other opportunities within the club land parcels.

"The Board's directive to make this a true destination and a continuum of services for the region is really in the making," said Ms Talbot.

"The 20-year journey to bring a hotel to the Richmond CBD is exciting for economic growth, jobs and tourism. The greater north west has been experiencing major growth for some years and this