

BOARD OF INQUIRY INTO THE COVID-19 HOTEL QUARANTINE PROGRAM

APPLICATION FOR A RESTRICTED PUBLICATION ORDER

BACKGROUND

1. The Board of Inquiry (**Board**) has received a written application on behalf of Rydges Hotels Limited (referred to in this Order as the **Applicant**), dated 17 August 2020 (**Application**). The Application is for an order restricting the publication or use of any information that may identify or tend to identify their employee who contracted COVID-19 whilst working at the Rydges on Swanston Hotel (**Protected Person**), either by reference to the name of the Protected Person, their job title or role, or any other information that would tend to identify the Protected Person other than by way of their status as an employee of the Applicant (**Information**).
2. The Applicant has given information or evidence to the Board for the purposes of its Inquiry.
3. Having regard to the Application and section 73(2)(a), (b) and (e) of the *Inquiries Act* 2014 (**Inquiries Act**), the Board finds:
 - a. prejudice or hardship might be caused to the Protected Person's safety and/or reputation, if the Protected Person's identity were to be ascertained;
 - b. the nature and subject matter of the Information is sensitive; and
 - c. it is otherwise appropriate to prohibit publication of the Information.
4. The Board has accordingly determined to grant the Application.

ORDER

1. Pursuant to section 73 of the *Inquiries Act* 2014, publication is prohibited of any information that may identify or tend to identify the Applicant's employee who contracted COVID-19 whilst working at the Rydges on Swanston Hotel (**Protected Person**), either by reference to the name of the Protected Person, their job title or role, or any other information that would tend to identify the Protected Person other than by way of their status as an employee of the Applicant.

Dated this 18th day of August 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Honourable Jennifer Coate AO

Board of Inquiry into the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Program