

SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

21 OCTOBER 2019

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WA EXTENDED CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS RELEASED

The Hon John Quigley MLA, WA Attorney General and Minister for Commerce, has [released](#) the extended Christmas 2019 trading hours for the Perth metropolitan area. Commencing on Saturday 7 December, this includes 22 extra hours up to Christmas Day, and 39 extra shopping hours over the Christmas period. This includes 8am-6pm Saturday and Sunday trading, 7am weekday opening times in the week leading-up to Christmas Day, and Australia Day public holiday trading from 8am to 6pm. The extended hours largely reflect those from last year, with one additional day this year and extended hours being provided closer to Christmas Day ([ShopTalk 28/9/18](#)). The full list of extended trading hours across the Christmas period is available [here](#).

FEDERAL CHANGES TO GIFT CARDS WILL APPLY FROM 1 NOVEMBER 2019

Changes to the Australian Consumer Law (ACL) will apply to gift cards and vouchers sold or supplied to consumers on or after 1 November 2019. The amendment makes three key changes: (1) it requires most gift cards be sold with a mandatory minimum expiry of three years (the period beginning from the date the gift card is sold to the consumer); (2) that the expiration date is prominently displayed on the gift card; and (3) that certain post-purchase fees are banned. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) can impose infringement notices, and penalties for non-compliance with the changes can result in fines of \$30,000 for body corporates and \$6,000 for individuals. The changes follow consultation last year which resulted in [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Gift Cards\) Act 2018](#), that passed the Federal Parliament in October 2018 ([ShopTalk 28/9/18](#)). This national reform duplicates existing laws in NSW and SA. NSW law already requires most gift cards sold in NSW be issued with a minimum expiry of three years, which has applied since 31 March 2018 ([ShopTalk 29/3/18](#)). Similarly, the regime in SA aligns with the NSW scheme and pending national changes, and has applied to gift cards sold in SA since 10 December 2018 requiring them to have, amongst other things, a minimum three-year expiry date ([ShopTalk 26/10/18](#)).

SA PLANNING REFORMS: DRAFT PLANNING AND DESIGN CODE CONSULTATION UNDERWAY

The SA Government has [released](#) its [draft Planning and Design Code for Phase Two \(Rural Areas\)](#) and [draft Planning and Design Code for Phase Three \(Urban Areas\)](#) for consultation. The documents reflect two key changes: (1) a new single Planning and Design Code (the Code) for assessing Development Applications across the state will be created by combining Country Development Plans (in rural areas), with Local Development Plans (in urban areas) into one single document; and (2) the Code will outline different classifications of development, zoning, overlays and relevant assessment pathways. Proposed zones, sub-zones and overlays can be viewed via an online [map](#) to allow better consideration of both documents. The consultation is part of the wide ranging planning reform program which commenced after the [Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016](#) passed the Parliament last year, and established the yet-to-be completed Code as a statutory instrument ([ShopTalk 12/10/18](#)). The role of the Code in land-use planning, particularly as it relates to centres, retail and mixed use planning was consulted on as part of the development of the [Productive Economy Discussion Paper](#). The SCCA engaged in this process. Comments on Phase Two (Rural Areas) of the future Code can be made up until midnight on 29 November 2019. Comments on Phase Three (Urban Areas) of the future Code can be made up until midnight on 28 February 2020. The SCCA will monitor the issue and provide input where necessary.

2019 SCCA MARKETING AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED: CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Congratulations to all the winners at the 2019 SCCA Marketing Awards! Winners were announced last week at the Awards Gala Dinner, which was held at the Ivy in Sydney. Special congratulations go to the 2019 Sabina Rust Memorial Prize winner for Campaign of the Year, 'Festival of You' by Rhodes Waterside, owned by Mirvac and Perron Investments. A special mention also goes to the runner-up, 'Celebrating an Icon - 120 Years' by Queen Victoria Building, which is owned by Vicinity Centres and GIC. Thank you to the Award sponsors for making this year's event possible. The full list of winners can be found on the Awards [website](#).

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