



**Friday 14 May 2010**

**[Archive](#)**

## **VCAT DISCUSSION PAPER SEEKS TO TRANSFORM OPERATIONS**

The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) has released a 28-page [Discussion Paper](#) for public comment, which proposes 43 actions under seven 'strategic priorities' to transform the Tribunal's operations, as part of its three-year strategic plan to be finalised in August (one of VCAT's functions is the determination of retail tenancy disputes which can't be resolved by mediation through the Office of Small Business Commissioner). The Discussion Paper is a follow up to the [former VCAT President's Review Paper](#) released in February this year. (The Shopping Centre Council of Australia made a [submission](#) on a 2009 consultation paper, with suggestions to improve the operations of the Tribunal's Retail Tenancies List). The Discussion Paper contains no specific actions in relation to the Retail Tenancies List, but outlines actions across all of the Tribunal's functions and jurisdictions. This includes issues such as improving VCAT's capabilities and competencies, recording all proceedings, funding and ongoing monitoring and evaluation of overall performance. One proposed action, to improve access to the Tribunal including for people in outer suburban Melbourne and country Victoria, is to pilot holding dispute resolutions in non-traditional settings such as shopping centres. Submissions close on Monday 28 June.

## **SHOPPING CENTRE NEWS 2010 CENTRE MARKETING AWARDS**

Congratulations to Donna White, National Marketing Manager (Retail Property), and her team at QIC, who were the overall winners for the Get Into It! campaign for the Robina Town Centre at this week's very successful 2010 *Shopping Centre News (SCN)* Australia and New Zealand Shopping Centre Marketing Awards. Full details of all winners and finalists will be published in the next edition of [SCN](#).

## **VICTORIA TO SEEK A NEW SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSIONER**

The Victorian Commissioner for Small Business, Mark Brennan, who has held the position since its inception in 2003, has resigned to accept a new appointment as the Director, Liquor Licensing in Victoria. Mr Brennan has performed the role with distinction and has had the confidence of both small business groups and big businesses. Peter Lisle has been appointed Acting Commissioner for Small Business.

## **ICSC SHOPPING CENTRE SECURITY CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA**

The International Council of Shopping Centers is hosting the 2010 Shopping Center Security Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, on 13-15 June. For the first time this will be held in conjunction with the (US) National Retail Federation's Loss Prevention Conference and EXPO. Details of the program are available [here](#) and booking details, discounted hotel rates, are available [here](#).

## **PLANNING MINISTER TO ADDRESS PCA Q'LD BRISBANE LUNCH**

The Queensland Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Stirling Hinchliffe MP, will address a Property Council, Queensland, luncheon in Brisbane on Friday 28 May. Further information and booking details are [here](#).

## **LATEST ISSUE OF INSIDE RETAILING MAGAZINE NOW AVAILABLE**

The latest April/May issue of *Inside Retailing* magazine is now available. This includes a feature on Australia's top 25 retailers as well as one on our leading shopping centres. Subscriptions can be made by emailing [subs@octomedia.com.au](mailto:subs@octomedia.com.au) or (02) 8224 8300.