



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

Friday 17 September 2010

[Archive](#)

SCCA SUBMISSION ON DRAFT NSW COMPETITION STATE PLANNING POLICY

The Shopping Centre Council of Australia has lodged a [submission](#) to the NSW Department of Planning on the [Draft Competition SEPP](#) ([Shop Talk 23/4/10](#) and [30/7/10](#)). While the Draft SEPP reiterates the predominant ruling under existing case law that competition between competitors is not a valid planning consideration, which is generally supported, the SEPP is more about the 'theatre' of so-called competition reform and planning. It does nothing to prevent 'competition' being used as a subterfuge to undermine good planning, such as current arguments against activity centres policies. It does nothing to address the fact that fair competition should cut both ways and not result in special treatment of certain competitors over others. It also does nothing to address the principal impediments to fair competition and increased retail space, which is a proactive and genuine approach to the activity centres policy, including proactive upzoning and enabling a broad range of land uses.

The NSW Government must see through the noise and acts on these important issues, including in the soon-to-be-finalised Activity Centres Policy and associated policy initiatives.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS ANNOUNCED

Competition policy returns to the Treasurer, Wayne Swan, in the new Federal Government Ministry and will be a specific responsibility of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, David Bradbury. Senator Nick Sherry is the new Minister for Small Business and Senator Penny Wong is the new Minister for Finance and Deregulation. On the Opposition side, Bruce Billson remains the spokesman on Small Business, Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs.

NATIONAL FRANCHISE CONVENTION 2010 ON GOLD COAST ON 10-12 OCTOBER

The Franchise Council of Australia's 2010 National Franchise Convention will be held at Surfers Paradise on 10-12 October. The program features a host of experienced and successful franchisors and franchisees. Click [here](#) to view the program or [here](#) to register.

DIRECTIONAL INSIGHT'S LATEST EDITION OF E-DIRECTIONS IS NOW AVAILABLE

The latest edition of Directional Insight's *e-Directions* newsletter is now [available](#). Click [here](#) for your free subscription.

2010 WA RETAIL AWARDS FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE ON 12 NOVEMBER

The WA Retail Awards for Customer Services Excellence, organised by the Retail Traders' Association of WA, will be held on 12 November in Perth. Click [here](#) for information or to nominate for an award and click [here](#) for registration. The Shopping Centre Council is a sponsor of these awards.

ICSC RETAILGREEN CONFERENCE & TRADE EXPOSITION IN ARIZONA, 12-14 OCTOBER

The International Council of Shopping Centers' Retail Green Conference and Trade Exposition will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona on October 12-14. The program can be viewed [here](#) and to register please click [here](#).

NEW CYCLE OF ICSC ON-LINE EDUCATION PROGRAM BEGINS ON 1 NOVEMBER

Registrations close on 22 September 2010 for the new cycle of ICSC's [eDistance Learning Program](#).