



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

Thursday 1 September 2011

[Archive](#)

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIVE RETAIL PREMISES REVIEW

The Victorian Minister for Planning, Matthew Guy, has [announced](#) a review of the definition of 'restricted retail premises' in the Victorian Planning Provisions. Mr Guy said the purpose of the review was to increase the range of retail goods permitted to be sold in these supposed bulky goods precincts. According to media reports Mr Guy is apparently considering including "pet supplies" and "baby equipment" as 'restricted retail premises' – these are bulky? – and is also considering that bulky goods zones will not be banned in industrial areas. The SCCA believes it is critically important for the integrity of the planning system, and for the ongoing viability and vitality of activity centres, that the commercial benefits of locating in these bulky goods zones are confined to those retail offers which are genuinely bulky in nature. That was supposed to be the *raison d'être* of such zones. But the Bulky Goods Retailers Association, which Mr Guy was addressing, is rapidly becoming the 'Oliver Twist' of the planning system: having already been given very favourable planning concessions, it's a constant case of "Please, sir, I want some more!"

SCCA SUBMISSION ON OPTIONS FOR GREATER LEASE INFORMATION IN WA

The Shopping Centre Council has lodged a [submission](#) on the WA Government's Consultation Paper on *Options for Improving Access to Lease Information in the Retail Tenancy Market* ([Shop Talk 21/7/11](#)). Of the three options presented, one is nonsensical (increasing access by valuers) and one is too costly, including for taxpayers (public lease register). SCCA has supported the third option (registration of leases on title), which has been shown in NSW and Queensland to be the most effective means of ensuring lease transparency. Most importantly the mechanisms already exist within Landgate for lease registration so the hit to the WA taxpayer will not be as great.

LOW CARBON AUSTRALIA SEEKS NEW FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES

[Low Carbon Australia](#) is seeking RFPs from businesses to co-invest in energy savings and carbon reductions. The proposals can be either projects requiring finance; co-investment finance; or referral partners. Further details are [here](#).

FIRST TIME GREEN BUILDING FUNDS ANNOUNCED FOR SHOPPING CENTRES

Successful bids for the first round of the [Green Building Fund](#) which has applied to shopping centres (Round 7) were [announced this week](#). A number of SCCA members, including Colonial First State, DEXUS, GPT, Lend Lease, Mirvac, Stockland and Westfield, were successful. Our push for the Fund to be extended to shopping centres has been justified with the successful projects, many of which received the maximum \$500,000 grant, highlighting the greenhouse saving potential that can be unlocked through such funding programs.

PCA SOUTH AUSTRALIA RETAIL PROPERTY AWARDS IN ADELAIDE ON 22 OCTOBER

The Property Council Retail Property Gala Awards Dinner will be held at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre on Saturday 22 October. For bookings for the Awards Dinner please contact Kate Knight at kpropc@bigpond.net.au.

PAUL McLEAN IS INDUCTED INTO ARU WALLABY HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to Paul McLean, CEO of Savills and a former Director of the Shopping Centre Council of Australia, who has been [inducted](#) into the Australian Rugby Union's Wallaby Hall of Fame. Paul played 31 tests for Australia and is widely regarded as one of Australia's most accomplished flyhalves. Paul later served as President of the Queensland Rugby Union and President of the Australian Rugby Union.