



# SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE  
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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[Previous Editions](#)

## SUNDAY TRADING BEGINS IN PERTH ON SUNDAY 26 AUGUST 2012

The WA Government has [announced](#) that all general retail shops (i.e. large shops) in the Perth metropolitan area will, from Sunday 26 August 2012, be able to open on Sundays between 11am and 5pm ([Shop Talk 21/6/12](#)). All general retail shops will also be able to open (also from 11am to 5pm) on all public holidays, except Good Friday, Christmas Day and Anzac Day. The Government has emphasised that a retailer's decision to open on these days is voluntary and this is protected by section 12C of the [Commercial Tenancy \(Retail Shops\) Agreements Act 1985](#). This provides that a provision in a retail shop lease that requires a tenant to open at any particular hour is void. Section 12 of the Act also provides that if a retailer opens outside 'standard trading hours', which do not include Sundays or public holidays, the retailer can be charged its relevant proportion of operating expenses (outgoings) for those additional hours but if retailers do not open outside standard trading hours, they are not liable for operating expenses.

## NSW GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES REFORMS TO REGULATION OF SECURITY INDUSTRY

The NSW Minister for Police, Mike Gallacher MLC, has [announced](#) reforms to the security industry with the NSW Police Force to become the main regulatory body through the Security Licensing and Enforcement Directorate (SLED). An amendment to the *Security Industry Act* to implement the reforms has now been introduced into the NSW Parliament. The reforms include abolition of the Security Industry Council (to be replaced by a Security Licensing and Enforcement Directorate Advisory Council) and reforms to licensing arrangements. The [Security Industry Amendment Bill 2012](#) will not be passed until the Spring session of Parliament later this year. The Minister's second reading speech in Parliament, which provides full details of the reforms, is available [here](#).

## SA GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES A REVIEW OF ELECTRICITY INSET SCHEMES

The SA Minister for Small Business, Tom Koutsantonis, has announced an inquiry (under section 5(1)(f) of the [Small Business Commissioners Act 2011](#)) into the operation of electricity inset schemes, also known as embedded networks, in South Australia. Although the Minister referred in Parliament only to "the pricing practices of shopping centres", such an inquiry must obviously be into inset schemes wherever they operate, not just in shopping centres. The Minister's decision is curious since South Australia was the lead jurisdiction in the introduction of the new National Energy Customer Framework (NECF) and the operation of electricity on-selling in shopping centres is in accordance with the laws and guidelines laid down by the SA Government. Mr Koutsantonis is also Minister for Energy and is therefore well aware of the various state and national customer protections. One of these protections is the ability of customers (i.e. tenants) to access an electricity retailer of their choice if they are unhappy with the service provided by landlords who operate electricity inset schemes.

## PCA 'RETAIL IN THE SPOTLIGHT' HALF-DAY FORUM IN SYDNEY ON 27 JULY

The Property Council, NSW, will host a half-day forum, *Retail in the Spotlight*, in Sydney on 27 July, of interest to retailers and retail property owners. Click [here](#) for further details and [here](#) to register.

## FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR THE NRA YOUNG RETAILER OF THE YEAR

The 2012 NRA *Young Retailer of the Year* will be announced at a Gala Dinner on Wednesday 1 August at the Rydges Hotel, Melbourne. The winner will have a place on the 2013 Westfield World Retail Study Tour. Click [here](#) for details; click [here](#) for a list of the finalists; and [here](#) to book for the workshop and/or order tickets to the dinner. The Shopping Centre Council is a sponsor of the awards.